

What router is best to put in a fiber optic box



Overview

The Best Routers for Fiber Internet: My Expert Picks With the help of the Cybernews team, I spent hours researching and comparing the best internet routers.

Key Takeaways

The best router for a fiber optic box is one that supports multi-gig speeds, Wi-Fi 6 or Wi-Fi 7, and has sufficient coverage and LAN ports to handle your devices efficiently. Key Features to Look For

1. Multi-Gigabit Support: Fiber optic internet can deliver speeds exceeding 1 Gbps, so your router should support at least 1 Gbps Ethernet ports, with some high-end models offering 10G LAN/WAN ports or LAN aggregation for faster wired connections .
2. Wi-Fi Standard: For wireless performance, Wi-Fi 6 (AX) or Wi-Fi 7 routers are recommended. Wi-Fi 7 routers, like the NETGEAR Nighthawk RS700S, provide faster speeds, better device handling, and improved range, making them ideal for gaming, streaming, and large households .
3. Coverage and Range: Choose a router with strong coverage to match your home or office size. Dual-band or tri-band routers with technologies like MU-MIMO and Beamforming ensure stable connections across multiple devices .
4. LAN Ports: A router with at least 4 Gigabit LAN ports is ideal for wired devices such as desktops, gaming consoles, or smart TVs. Some routers also support LAN port aggregation to combine ports for higher speeds .
5. Security and Management: Advanced routers often include features like WPA3 encryption, parental controls, Quality of Service (QoS), and optional security subscriptions to protect your network from malware and unauthorized access .

Recommended Routers

- NETGEAR Nighthawk Tri-Band Wi-Fi 7 (RS700S): Excellent for high-speed fiber, gaming, streaming, and large homes; supports multi-gig speeds and advanced security .
- NETGEAR Nighthawk RS90 Wi-Fi 7: High-performing, future-ready router with consistent speed for multiple devices and 4K/8K streaming .
- ASUS RT-AC86U: Great for gamers and heavy internet users; offers robust customization and security features .
- TP-Link AX1800 Archer AX21: Budget-friendly Wi-Fi 6 router with dual-band support, MU-MIMO, and Beamforming for reliable coverage .
- Ufiber UF-WiFi6: Practical option for standard fiber setups, offering Wi-Fi 6 performance and four Gigabit LAN ports for everyday use .

Conclusion

To fully utilize a fiber optic connection, select a router that matches your internet plan's speed, supports modern Wi-Fi standards, and provides adequate coverage and wired connectivity. High-end Wi-Fi 7 routers are ideal for future-proofing, while Wi-Fi 6 routers offer a cost-effective solution for most homes and offices .

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