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# Household Broadband Guide

Use the chart below to compare minimum download speed (Mbps) needs for light, moderate and high household use with one, two, three or four devices at a time (such as a laptop, tablet or game console).

You can also compare typical online activities with the minimum Mbps needed for adequate performance for each application by using our [Broadband Speed Guide \(/guides/broadband-speed-guide\)](#).

For more information on broadband speeds, see our [Measuring Broadband America report \(/measuring-broadband-america\)](#).

These numbers are rough guidelines and are not based on surveys or experiments conducted by the FCC. You should use your best judgment when choosing your broadband service.

	<b>Light Use</b> (Basic functions: email, browsing, basic video, VoIP, Internet radio)	<b>Moderate Use</b> (Basic functions plus <i>one</i> high-demand application: streaming HD video, multiparty video conferencing, online gaming, telecommuting)	<b>High Use</b> (Basic functions plus <i>more than one</i> high-demand application running at the same time)
1 user on 1 device	Basic	Basic	Medium
2 users or devices at a time	Basic	Medium	Medium/Advanced
3 users or devices at a time	Medium	Medium	Advanced
4 users or devices at a time	Medium	Advanced	Advanced

Basic Service = 3 to 8 Mbps\*

Medium Service = 12 to 25 Mbps

Advanced Service = More than 25 Mbps

\*Mbps (Megabits per second) is the standard measure of broadband speed. It refers to the speed with which information packets are downloaded from, or uploaded to, the internet.

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