



Mobile Data

The Internet connection provided through your cellphone network. When you're not connected to Wi-Fi, your phone uses mobile data to get online.

Simply: the internet your phone uses away from Wi-Fi.



Hotspot

Lets your phone share its mobile Internet connection with another device, like a laptop. Uses data quickly, especially with video or downloads.

Simply: another device borrows your phone's data.



Cell Towers & Signal Bars

Your cellphone talks to nearby cell towers to make calls, send texts & use data. As you travel, your phone connects to different towers to stay online. Bars show signal strength: more bars, generally a stronger connection. Buildings, trees & distance can affect it.

Simply: your phone talks to nearby towers to stay connected.



KB, MB & GB — How Much Data?

Measurements of digital information, smallest to largest:

KB (Kilobyte) — tiny, like a short document. **MB** (Megabyte) — bigger, like a photo or song. **GB** (Gigabyte) — much bigger, like videos, apps & streaming.

Simply: KB = small, MB = bigger, GB = much bigger.



Cell Signal vs. Wi-Fi

Cell signal comes from cell towers and is used by your cellphone network — this is your mobile data. **Wi-Fi** comes from a router or access point connected to an Internet service. When you're at a restaurant or store with free Wi-Fi, you're using their Internet instead of your cellphone's mobile data — which helps save the data included in your plan.

Simply: cell signal = your phone plan's data. Wi-Fi = someone's internet, not your data.



Cell Signal = from cell towers, uses your data plan



Wi-Fi = from a router, doesn't use your data plan

The Internet

The worldwide network that lets phones, computers, tablets & other devices connect and share information.

Simply: what lets you go online.

Wi-Fi

A wireless way for your device to connect to an Internet connection — at home, or at restaurants, hotels, libraries & stores.

Simply: lets your device use the internet without using cellphone data.

Browsing

Looking around on the Internet — reading news, viewing websites, shopping online, or checking the weather.

Simply: looking around online.

Streaming

Watching or listening to something over the Internet without downloading the whole thing first — Netflix, YouTube, Spotify. Can use a lot of data on mobile.

Simply: watching/listening over the internet in real time.

Downloading & Uploading

Downloading means bringing something from the Internet onto your device — an app, a photo, a PDF. **Uploading** means sending something from your device to the Internet — posting a photo, sending a video, sharing a document.

Simply: download = to your device, upload = from your device.

Mbps & Gbps — Internet Speed

Mbps (megabits per second) and **Gbps** (gigabits per second) tell you how fast your Internet connection can move information. 1,000 Mbps = 1 Gbps. This is different from GB, which measures how much data you use — Mbps/Gbps = how fast, GB = how much.

Wightman offers three speeds:

FAST

100 MBPS

Great for browsing, email, social media & HD streaming. Typically handles a few devices at once — good for individuals or small households.

FASTER

250 MBPS

Great for multiple people streaming, working from home & online gaming. Typically handles several devices running at the same time.

SUPER FAST

1 GIG (1,000 MBPS / 1 GBPS)

Great for a large household — people working from home, gamers, 4K streaming & many devices doing everything at once.