

# Don't Settle for 5G WireLESS

stream, game, work, and connect MAPPE

In today's fast-paced digital world, having a reliable and high-speed Internet connection is more important than ever. Whether you're streaming your favorite shows, working from home, or running a business, the quality of your Internet connection can significantly impact your experience. That's why we're excited to discuss the benefits of fiber Internet—a technology that has become the gold standard for Internet connectivity.

Fiber Internet, or fiber-optic Internet, uses thin strands of glass or plastic to transmit data as light signals. Unlike traditional copper cables, which rely on electrical signals, fiber-optic cables can carry much more data at significantly higher speeds over longer distances without losing signal quality.

We are proud to say that Polar has a 100% fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) network! FTTH refers to a broadband network architecture where fiber-optic cables are run directly to individual homes or buildings. This means that the fiber connection extends from our central office all the way to the customer's premises, providing a direct and highly efficient link. FTTH represents the pinnacle of current broadband technology, delivering unmatched speed, reliability, and the capacity to meet future Internet demands.

Internet service through a cell service provider is considered 5G. 5G Internet technology works by using a combination of radio frequencies, antenna technologies, and network infrastructure to deliver Internet. While both FTTH and 5G are cutting-edge technologies offering high-speed Internet, they serve different purposes and come with distinct advantages.

Here's why FTTH is often considered superior to 5G for certain applications:



### **Speed and Bandwidth**

Fiber Internet: Fiber optic cables use light to transmit data, allowing for extremely high speeds. With symmetrical upload and download speeds, they often reach up to 1 Gbps (gigabits per second) or even higher.

**5G Wireless:** While 5G can offer high speeds, especially in urban areas, it typically ranges between 100 Mbps to 1 Gbps, depending on the location, network congestion, and proximity to a 5G tower. Speeds can fluctuate more with 5G compared to the consistent speeds provided by fiber.



#### Latency

Fiber Internet: Fiber has very low latency and is crucial for applications like online gaming, video conferencing, and other real-time data transmissions.

**5G Wireless:** 5G offers lower latency than previous wireless technologies, but it can still be higher and more variable than fiber, especially in less optimal conditions.



## Reliability

Fiber Internet: Fiber connections are less prone to interference from weather, buildings, or other obstacles. Once installed, they are very stable and reliable.

**5G Wireless**: 5G signals can be affected by physical obstacles like buildings, trees, and even weather conditions. Coverage can be inconsistent, especially in rural areas or indoors, where signals may need to be stronger.



### **Capacity and Scalability**

Fiber Internet: Fiber networks have a massive capacity for data and are easily scalable. As demand grows, they can be upgraded relatively easily to handle more traffic.

**5G Wireless:** While 5G can support many devices, there is a limit to the number of devices and the amount of data that can be handled simultaneously in a given area, leading to congestion during peak times.



## Symmetrical Speeds

Fiber Internet: Typically offers symmetrical speeds, meaning the upload and download speeds are the same. This benefits tasks like uploading large files, video conferencing, and cloud computing.

5G Wireless: Usually offers asymmetrical speeds, with higher download speeds than upload speeds. This can be a limitation for users who need fast upload capabilities.



## **Future-Proofing**

Fiber Internet: Fiber infrastructure is considered future-proof because the physical medium (fiber optic cables) can handle data rates far beyond what is currently used, meaning it will remain relevant for many years.

**5G Wireless:** While 5G is a significant upgrade over previous wireless generations, the infrastructure may need to be updated or replaced as technology evolves.



## Coverage

Fiber Internet: Coverage is expanding but is more readily available in urban and suburban areas. In areas where it's available, it provides consistent service.

**5G Wireless**: Coverage can be spotty, especially in rural areas, and while it's expanding, the experience can vary widely depending on location and network provider.

FTTH is generally better for those prioritizing a consistent, high-speed, and reliable Internet connection with low latency and high security, especially in fixed locations like homes or businesses. It's ideal for heavy Internet users, smart homes, and businesses that rely on a stable connection for operations.

