

Replacing a router with a China Netcom fiber optic broadband connection



Article Overview

You can replace your ISP-provided router with a compatible third-party router by connecting it to the ONT and configuring VLAN, PPPoE/IPoE, and network settings properly.

Understanding the Fiber Setup

China Netcom fiber optic broadband delivers internet via a fiber line that terminates at an Optical Network Terminal (ONT), which converts optical signals into Ethernet for your home network. The ONT is usually installed near the fiber entry point in your home and is essential for connecting any router. Standard routers cannot directly accept fiber signals, so the ONT acts as the bridge between the fiber network and your router.

Hardware Requirements

- **ONT (Optical Network Terminal):** Provided by China Netcom or purchased separately if allowed.
- **Compatible Router:** Ensure it supports WAN connections via Ethernet and, if needed, VLAN tagging or PPPoE/IPoE protocols. Modern routers with Wi-Fi 6/6E, WPA3 security, and QoS features are recommended for optimal performance.
- **Ethernet Cable:** To connect the ONT's LAN port to your router's WAN port.
- **Power Supply:** Both ONT and router require stable power, ideally with surge protection

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