



## Join Us at the Dodge County Expo to Celebrate Their 25th Year!

Stop by our booth.  
We would love to see you.

- Saturday, March 29th, 2025
- 8:00am to 2:00pm
- Triton High School in Dodge Center



KMTelecom is sponsoring the Boogie Breakfast for 25¢! Bring the family! Boogie will be present. Great food will be served at 8:00am until food runs out!

## Business Office Closed

**Monday, May 26th, 2025**  
Memorial Day

## KMTelecom

18 Second Avenue NW  
Kasson, MN 55944-1491  
507-634-2511

Local call for KMTelecom customers in Kasson, Mantorville, Rock Dell and Dodge Center

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm  
For help with service problems during non-business hours, please call 507-634-2505.

### 24/7 Internet Help Desk

Kasson, Mantorville Area 507-634-2575  
Rock Dell Area 507-634-2575 (FREE call)  
Dodge Center Area 507-633-2575

### Visit Us Online

[www.kmtel.com](http://www.kmtel.com)

### Stay Up to Date

Follow KMTelecom on Facebook and Instagram @kmtelcomwhippet

**KMTelecom**  
Where technology comes with a human touch

# FIBER ALWAYS WINS



## STAY ON TEAM FIBER FOR UNBEATABLE INTERNET SPEED AND RELIABILITY

Fiber internet brings much more to the game than 5G home internet ever will. So, stick with fiber internet to enjoy:

- **Winning speeds** – Up to 1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) for buffering-free streaming
- **Winning reliability** – 99.9% uptime for a connection to count on for big March games and more
- **Winning customer experience** – Unlimited usage with no data caps or throttling

It's a slam dunk. Fiber internet always wins, and you deserve to be on the winning team. (5G home internet isn't even in the same league.)

**CALL 507-634-2511 FOR MORE STATS**

## 3 Signs It Might Be Time to Replace Your Wi-Fi Router

You probably don't spend much time thinking about your Wi-Fi router. But don't ignore it entirely. After all, your router is important—it enables your home's devices to wirelessly access your internet connection. Like any technology, routers are regularly updated with new features and capabilities, and you'll want to stay current to take advantage of them.

Watch for these signs you may need a new router:

- 1. You've noticed slower internet speeds.** Routers rarely show outward signs of decay. Instead, performance may start to decline, such as slower than usual speeds.
- 2. It keeps rebooting.** When a router reboots itself multiple times, it indicates potential hardware issues or an inability to handle the existing traffic load.
- 3. Overheating happens regularly.** This is a strong indication that your router is struggling to handle the workload and may be on the verge of hardware failure.

**If you're considering a new router, call our office at 507-634-2511 and ask about our Managed Wi-Fi.**



## How Does 5G Home Internet Differ From Fiber Internet?

You may be hearing a lot these days about the 5G home internet offered by cellular providers. But what exactly is it, and how does it differ from fiber internet?

Before we compare these two internet technologies, let's clear up a common misconception. The abbreviation 5G refers to the fifth generation of wireless technology for cellular networks, which was initially released in 2019. The "G" in 5G does NOT stand for gigabit and has nothing to do with internet speeds.

### 5G Home Internet

**How It Works** – 5G home internet uses the 5G network towers of a cellular company to provide a fixed wireless connection. Speeds will vary by location, depending on how far the customer is from a local tower or transmitter.

**Speeds** – Speeds offered by 5G home internet average just 150 Mbps. What's more, several factors can adversely affect speeds, including network congestion and line-of-sight issues from obstacles such as buildings or terrain. Even inclement weather can slow things down.

**Reliability** – 5G home internet can get bogged down by high-traffic demands and technical issues stemming from poor cell service.

### Fiber Internet

**How It Works** – Fiber internet uses fiber-optic cables consisting of bundled strands of glass, which are buried under the ground to provide a direct internet connection. Fiber is the gold standard.

**Speeds** – A range of fiber internet plans are typically offered, with speeds up to 1 Gbps (1,000 Mbps) and more. You may also be able to get symmetrical speeds, meaning your uploads are just as fast as your downloads.

**Reliability** – Fiber internet has a much larger capacity to carry data and is less prone to technical malfunctions or slow-downs. This results in a connection you can count on, with a proven track record of 99.9% reliability.

It's clear that despite the hype around 5G, fiber remains the go-to connection type for extremely fast and reliable internet. Simply put, you can't do better than fiber internet. It's the preferred connection — and the best overall value — for large households with multiple users and devices, people who work from home, online gamers, and streaming enthusiasts.

**To learn more about KMTelcom's fiber internet plans, visit [www.kmtel.com](http://www.kmtel.com).**

# Most U.S. Households Pay for at Least One Streaming Service

Streaming is now mainstream. A 2024 survey done by Forbes Home and OnePoll indicated that 99% of U.S. households pay for at least one streaming service—with Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, and Apple TV+ being most popular.

Other research puts the figure around 85%. Either way, there's been a big increase since 2015, when only about 50% of U.S. households paid for at least one streaming service. When did your household get on the streaming bandwagon? Or are you still considering whether to take that step?

Whether you've been streaming for years or are just getting started, we think you'll find these statistics interesting:

- **On average, Americans pay for 2.9 streaming subscriptions every month.** For many households, this number is the “sweet spot” that provides enough streaming options for entertainment and information without having to spend too much money.
- **It's estimated that 7% of Americans have six or more streaming subscriptions.** These heavy users put a high value in having access to a huge variety of movies, series, documentaries, and more.
- **Americans spend an average of three hours and nine minutes a day streaming digital media.** That's a substantial amount of time, equivalent to working a part-time job!
- **Netflix is the biggest streaming service in the world.** The company reported 269.6 million global paid memberships as of March 31, 2024. In second place is Amazon Prime Video.
- **More than a quarter of viewers admit to binge-watching at least once a week.** In fact, the ability to watch an entire season of a favorite series in a single day or weekend is one reason streaming services became so popular.
- **More than half of Americans have subscribed to a streaming service to watch one program, then cancelled their subscription.** This strategy, known as streaming service rotation, allows subscribers to watch what they want and keep costs to a minimum.

For help entering the world of streaming, visit our **Streaming TV Guide** at [www.kmtel.com/streaming-tv/](http://www.kmtel.com/streaming-tv/).



## Go Green for St. Patrick's Day

The obvious way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17th is to wear green. But why stop there? For extra fun, plan your meals to feature green food—such as salad made with green vegetables, guacamole, pesto pasta, pistachios, kiwi, and lime sherbet.

Speaking of green, you'll save green with our Paperless Billing. Sign up today and get a one-time \$10 credit on your next bill. Visit [www.kmtel.com](http://www.kmtel.com) and click on “Bill Pay” for details.

**\$25** Win a \$25 Credit on Your KMTelcom Bill

Fill out this form, clip it, and return it with your next bill by March 31st, 2025 for a chance to win a **\$25 credit** to your account. One winner per newsletter will be selected.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

To qualify for the drawing, please answer the question below. (The answer can be found in this issue.)

How much is the “Boogie Breakfast” on March 29th at the Expo?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Congratulations to our December 2024 winner, Tim Paulson, Mantorville, MN.**

## National Telephone Day Calls for a Celebration

National Telephone Day is observed yearly on April 25th, in recognition of the date in 1876 when Alexander Graham Bell introduced his “electric speaking machine” to the world. Eventually known as the “telephone,” this landmark tool made instrumental changes in how people communicated in their personal and professional lives.

New chapters in telephone history began with the first widely available cell phones in the 1980s and the introduction of the iPhone in 2007. Today, the “smart” parts of a smart-phone—including browsers and a multitude of apps—tend to be used much more frequently than the “phone” part. In fact, some people rarely make voice calls and prefer texts or instant messaging.

So, how can you celebrate National Telephone Day? We suggest you surprise a friend or family member with an actual phone call and have a fun, leisurely conversation.

**Our KMTelecom team loves getting calls from customers. Feel free to call 507-634-2511 whenever you have questions about our services.**



## What to Do If Your Internet Goes Down

Fiber internet is by far the most reliable internet you can get. However, like any technology, issues can occasionally occur.

If you lose your internet connection at home, here's what to try:

- **Restart your modem and router or internet gateway (modem/route combo).** An equipment restart is the golden rule of internet troubleshooting. This should always be your first step. It's easy to do and often resolves the issue.
- **Check your wires and cables.** Loose or damaged cables can cause a wide range of internet issues. Sometimes the fix is as simple as tightening a connection. Other times, you may need to replace a cable or require the help of a broadband technician.
- **Test a different website or online activity.** The internet problem may be with the app, service, or website you're trying to access. If only one website or service is acting up, your connection is probably fine.
- **Check all your home's devices.** That way, you can see if the internet problem is just with the one device you're using or if it's affecting your entire Wi-Fi network.
- **Contact the Help Desk.** If you've exhausted all the previous troubleshooting steps and still don't have an internet connection, it's time to contact the internet Help Desk at 507-634-2575. They will help identify the issue and work to resolve it. If they cannot resolve it they will dispatch a technician.

Let's say you find out there's a network problem that will require a day or two to fix. What are your options for getting the internet connection you need in the meantime? Many cellular phones have a built-in feature called a mobile hotspot that allows your phone to act like a mini Wi-Fi router. If yours does, you'll be able to connect other devices, like your laptop or tablet, to the internet using your phone's cellular data connection. Another option, as you may have guessed, is to leave your home and use public Wi-Fi in a local library or coffee shop.