



Wireless Networking for Your Home and Office

You want to share your printers, files, and Internet connection and don't want to spend big bucks for a cabling contractor to knock holes in your walls! Enter the future: Wireless networking.

A wireless network is similar to a cordless phone. There is a "base station" which receives and routes signals between your wireless computers, cabled computers (LAN), and Internet connection. Each of your wireless computers is then equipped with a wireless Network Interface Card which has a visible antenna, and away you go!

Of course, there are some concerns which include:

- **Security!** For someone to eavesdrop on a cabled network, they generally have to plug in. You would probably notice that stranger sitting in your office with his laptop plugged into the wall.

With wireless, it gets a little tougher, because that stranger could be sitting in his car around the corner! To avoid these dangers, wireless networking devices employ a variety of security mechanisms that restrict access to only your computers (sorry neighbors) and/or make anything that is accessible unreadable to outsiders. Unfortunately, these safeguards are not usually set properly at installation and if you don't get it right, you may be inviting strangers in.

- **Reliability.** Like the reception on your cordless phone, wireless connections get flakier the further you stray from the base station. In addition, a variety of other radio devices – like that cordless phone – can interfere with transmission. Fortunately, there are inexpensive booster devices that can improve range and employ multiple channel switching techniques that eliminate device competition.
- **Speed.** Most wireless networks run as fast as most people need them to. They are more than adequate to surf the Web, collect e-mail and print modest size documents. For businesses that require more speed, there are additional high speed wireless solutions.

Overall, the best way to ensure that your wireless network is as secure, reliable, and as fast as possible is to have it designed and installed by competent professionals. Visit our website at <http://www.ntb-group.com> to find out more about us.

So call Paula Lerner on (772) 538 - 1921 or email her at paula@ntb-group.com to discuss your wireless networking needs.