

Two routers connected via fiber optic cable from China Telecom



Overview

Setting up a router connected to a China Telecom fiber optic cable
How to Connect Fiber Optic Cable to Router: A Step-by-Step Guide
Connecting a fiber optic.

Key Takeaways

Fiber optic cables from China Telecom must connect through an Optical Network Terminal (ONT) before reaching your router, ensuring proper signal conversion and network functionality.
Understanding the Setup

Fiber optic cables transmit data as light signals, which standard routers cannot interpret directly. Therefore, each fiber line from China Telecom must first connect to an ONT, which converts optical signals into electrical signals compatible with your router . The ONT acts as the demarcation point between the ISP's network and your home or office network.

Equipment Required

- Optical Network Terminal (ONT): Provided by China Telecom, one ONT per fiber line is typically required. Some advanced ONTs can handle multiple fiber inputs, but most residential setups use one ONT per fiber .
- Fiber-Ready Router: Ensure your router supports fiber input, either via an SFP port or a WAN port labeled for fiber/ONT connection .
- Fiber Optic Cables: Usually single-mode with SC/APC or SC/UPC connectors. Handle carefully to avoid damage .

- **Ethernet Cables:** To connect the ONT output to the router's WAN port.

Connection Steps

- **Install the ONT(s):** Place each ONT near the fiber entry point. If using two fibers, you may need two ONTs unless your ONT supports dual inputs .
- **Connect Fiber Cables to ONT:** Remove protective caps, align the connectors, and insert each fiber cable into the ONT's optical port until it clicks securely .
- **Link ONT to Router:** Use Ethernet cables to connect the ONT's LAN port to the router's WAN port. If using two ONTs, you may need a router that supports dual WAN inputs or a load-balancing setup .
- **Power On Devices:** Turn on the ONTs first, wait for status lights to stabilize, then power on the router .
- **Configure Router:** Access the router's admin panel via a browser (e.g., 192.168.1.1) and enter any ISP credentials if required. Enable dual WAN or load balancing if using two fiber inputs .
- **Verify Connection:** Check that both fiber lines are active and the router is distributing internet correctly.

Precautions

- **Avoid bending fiber cables sharply;** maintain gentle curves to prevent signal loss .
- **Keep connectors clean and free of dust;** use alcohol wipes if necessary .
- **Ensure router firmware is updated to support high-speed fiber connections .** By following these steps, you can successfully connect two China Telecom fiber optic cables to your router, either through separate ONTs or a dual-input ONT, ensuring high-speed, stable internet performance.

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