

Parental Controls for the Internet

Welcome to this training lesson on **Parental Controls for the Internet**. In this lesson, we'll look at what they are and how to apply them.

Estimated Completion Time: 5 minutes.

Parental Controls for the Internet

What are Parental Controls? Parental controls, in this sense, refers to the ability to control the content that is available in your household or small business.

For example, in a household where there are young or teenage children, you might like to block all access to pornography or other adult sites. Schools or small businesses may want to block access to Facebook, or YouTube, to stop time wasting.



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Keeping a Track. Parents, employers, and teachers know that even if rules are set - no pornography allowed - no Facebook allowed - no YouTube allowed - these rules are almost impossible to enforce at all times.

This is the reason why parental controls are used - it means you don't have to monitor kids, students and employees. Access is blocked automatically to whatever sites you select.



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Parental Controls on PCs. We mentioned earlier that some versions of Windows contain features to limit or block Internet activity. Third party programs can be installed that can also achieve this goal.

The problem with this approach is that there are generally so many devices that can connect to the Internet. Multiple PCs, phones, and tablets, are quite the norm in many households.

So restricting access on a PC or device basis quickly becomes impractical.



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Router Controls. One way to ensure all devices that use your home router to connect to the Internet is to configure the router itself to block access to certain sites. By using the router to control access, you control access to every device in your house or business.

OpenDNS (www.opendns.com), for example, is one service that allows you to block certain sites directly from your router. It has both free and paid plans available.



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ISP Control. Another way to ensure all devices in your house or business are protected is to use a plan that may be provided via your ISP (Internet Service Provider).

Most responsible ISPs will have a number of plans available. Check the website of your ISP - or give them a call. These parental controls can be applied very quickly and effectively.



Parental Controls for the Internet

You've now completed this training lesson on **Parental Controls for the Internet**.
In this lesson, we looked at what they are and how to apply them.