**What is a router?**

Home network device that we usually call a router, is the piece of network hardware that allows communication between your personal computer and other connected devices to the Internet.

**Basic Information**

Routers contain a processor, several kinds of digital memory that we will talk about later, and input/output interfaces. The router's memory stores an operating system. Router’s operating systems is different from the normal operating systems any personal computer could have. Examples of popular router operating systems include Cisco Internetwork Operating System and DD-WRT.

**Hackability**

A router is the first line of security from hacking into a network. Unless you don't mind a strangers accessing your networked files. Enabling the highest level of security on the router is the best way to keep your computer system and information safe from attack. You should always protect your wireless network with a password.

**How to protect your Internet?**

WPA2 is currently the most secure type of wireless encryption, so make sure you use WPA2 if you can. Some old wireless devices won't support WPA, in which case you will have to use the less secure WEP instead. If you're planning to allow strangers to share your network like many business do, you might want to look for a router with the "guest network" feature, which allows other people to access the internet without giving them full access to your computers and sensitive data. Hardware specs like these are important to make managing your network easier. However, the more features a router has, the more expensive it's likely to be.

**Business Class Router**

Before home networking became popular, routers could be found only in the closets of businesses and schools. Each cost thousands of dollars and require special technical training to set up and manage.