

5G, the mobile connectivity of the future

Notes & Cues:**Article:**

With news that the government will build a 5G cellular network being reported and then just as quickly dismissed by officials, many Americans have found themselves asking: What the heck is 5G anyway?

The long and short of it is that 5G is a faster kind of cellular data connectivity. 5G will offer three main benefits: Faster speeds, lower latency and increased bandwidth.

For reference, the government considers anything with speeds above 25 megabits per second a broadband connection. But 5G will be offering speeds from hundreds of megabits per second up to gigabits, or 1, 000 megabits, per second.

5G latency will be so low that you'll have near-instantaneous reaction times to requests. And that will prove important for applications like self-driving cars. By adding 5G connections to such vehicles, self-driving cars will be able to send and receive information fast enough to avoid accidents with other autonomous vehicles.

You've likely noticed what happens when bandwidth becomes congested. If you've ever been at a coffee shop or hotel with a large number of people, your Internet connection becomes almost unusable due to the amount of traffic. With 5G, bandwidth will grow to a degree that thousands of individual devices will be able to connect to cell towers at once without issue.

Summary: