

**Plug in when gaming.**  
If your nephews and nieces love playing Xbox or PlayStation, set them up in the basement with a wired connection to a gaming console.

# TIPS TO MAKE YOUR HOUSE A HOLIDAY HOTSPOT

If you're planning to play host for Thanksgiving, New Year's, or in between, your guests will want to get online for social media, fantasy sports, online gaming, shopping, streaming, and more, so it's important to make sure your Wi-Fi is up to speed.

To keep everyone happy, here are a few tips to use while entertaining this holiday season.

**Centralize your router.**

Most activity will take place in your living room and kitchen, as family and friends gather to watch football (while checking fantasy scores), open presents (while posting on Instagram), and cook dinner (while looking at Pinterest recipes). Make sure your router (aka Wireless Gateway) is somewhere centered in this general vicinity and several feet off the ground so the signal will reach the most used areas.

**Reboot your router beforehand.**

Most software and speed updates require a restart, just like a smartphone or tablet. To make sure your router is running at its peak performance, reboot it a few days before the party. **Just unplug it from the power outlet**, wait 15-20 seconds, and plug it back in.

**Use the 5 GHz connection.**

Most devices connect to **2.4 GHz** by default, meaning the **5 GHz** spectrum is generally less crowded and faster. Use it to stream a "How to assemble a bike" video from YouTube.

**Choose Wi-Fi over cellular.**

Whether you're streaming holiday music on Pandora or your husband is watching a YouTube video on how to make cookies, make sure all devices are on Wi-Fi and not cellular. Streaming can eat up your mobile data fast.

**Watch out for hogs.**

Need to clear some space on that smartphone or camera? Tasks like uploading thousands of photos or downloading a new computer program can hog your speed and bandwidth. Most likely these things don't need to happen during a party, so hold off until after your guests leave, or do them beforehand.

**Take advantage of two hotspots.**

If you're an Xfinity Internet customer with our latest Xfinity Wireless Gateway, you have two wireless signals, or SSIDs. One is your family's private home Wi-Fi signal, while the other is a separate **xfinitywifi** signal. Each has its own dedicated bandwidth, keeping your home network faster and more secure, because you don't have to share it with guests.

**When in doubt, restart.**

If the Internet starts to get sluggish, reset your Wireless Gateway, and let it readjust. This will reestablish the network in your house and may solve the issue.