



Still running your business on home Wi-Fi?

Read this before it costs you

Ever wonder why your home Wi-Fi feels faster than your business Wi-Fi? So much so that you've questioned whether a residential line could carry your company? It's tempting, but there's so much more happening under the hood.

That Netflix-ready line at home might be fine for streaming, but when you've got payroll to run, clients to call, and teams in the cloud, shaky internet becomes a liability.

This eBook unpacks exactly what makes business internet different from the line you use at home. We'll break down the technical bits, the hidden risks, and the reasons smart companies pay for more than just a basic connection.



5 key differences: Business vs home internet

1. **Dedicated speed and bandwidth:** Both your home and business line might promise 100 Mbps, but only one can deliver it under pressure. That R900 home plan is like a buffet at lunchtime. Everyone piles in and you get what's left. Your R8 000 business line is reserved seating: uncontended, guaranteed, and steady no matter how many devices and users pile on.
2. **Reliability and uptime (SLA):** Home internet is a “best effort” gamble. SLAs mean guaranteed uptime, priority fault response, and accountability when things break. In other words, you're paying for peace of mind that your business doesn't grind to a halt.
3. **Symmetric uploads:** Home lines are built for relaxing, not producing. They handle downloads well enough for streaming, but business demands equal strength in both uploads and downloads. In business, you're constantly sending as much as you're receiving: video calls, file sharing, backups. Business lines give you equal upload and download speeds so your voice doesn't cut out mid-sentence and your backups don't take days.
4. **Security features:** A speed test won't show it, but business lines come with firewalls, VPN support, and intrusion protection baked in. That's the invisible shield guarding customer data and compliance requirements. Your R900 home line? It leaves you wide open.
5. **Data caps and fair usage:** The cheap home deal often hides a trap – hit a certain limit and your speeds nose-dive. Business fibre is uncapped, unshaped, and built for the heavy, always-on workloads that keep a company running. No surprise slowdowns, no hidden strings.



Why your business needs it

Your home line might feel fast at night when you're streaming alone. But put 50 employees on that same line during working hours, with video calls, CRM platforms, emails, and cloud apps all running concurrently and it falls apart.

Why you need internet for business:

Reliable connectivity means productivity: Picture a team on a video conference: nobody wants glitchy video or frozen audio. Business internet is built to keep things smooth. It often includes backups (like Vodacom's free LTE failover) and careful traffic management so critical apps get top priority.



Scalability and growth: As your company grows, you may add users, multiple sites, or cloud applications. Business plans make it easy to upgrade bandwidth or add services. Home plans usually have fixed tiers and can't flex for spikes in demand.



Professional image: Slow or unreliable internet can hurt your brand. Dropped calls, website timeouts, or missed emails scream "amateur hour" to clients. Business internet ensures a professional experience – from fast email delivery to smooth VoIP calls. (In fact, Vodacom offers integrated VoIP over its business connections, saving up to 20% on call costs.)



Security and compliance: If you handle customer data, e-commerce, or financial transactions, you may need to meet regulatory or security standards. Business connections can support encrypted VPNs and monitored firewalls that home internet can't.



Business-class internet protects your bottom line. The upfront cost is higher, but think of it as buying insurance and speed. Lost productivity and frustrated customers cost far more.

Conclusion

Your business deserves more than a consumer-grade connection. Business internet means stronger speeds, rock-solid reliability, and dedicated support – traits that save you downtime, headaches, and lost revenue.

Yes, it costs more, but it also delivers more, so the extra spend often pays off. Home internet is fine for Netflix, but businesses need a package that can handle heavier use and grow with them. In the end, investing in business-grade internet helps ensure your team stays connected, productive, and competitive.



Vodacom's Business solutions

For South African businesses, providers like Vodacom offer tailored packages. For example, Vodacom's Business Connect plan is uncapped, uncontended, unshaped, [and] managed internet.

In plain terms, that means you get full speed 24/7 without sneaky throttling. It even comes with a standard SLA for uptime and a built-in backup (capped LTE at 100 GB) in case the primary link has issues. Vodacom also provides options like 4G/LTE and 5G for locations without fibre, and dedicated fibre lines (with fixed or symmetrically split speeds).

