

VPNs (Virtual Private Networks)

**by Don Arrowsmith
May 1, 2021**



VPNs (Virtual Private Networks)

- What is a VPN?
- Why would you want one?
- How do you get one?
- How do you use one?
- Run your own for free if you have the right router, a network file server, or even a Raspberry Pi.
- How to setup a VPN on an ASUS RT-AC86U (or another router)



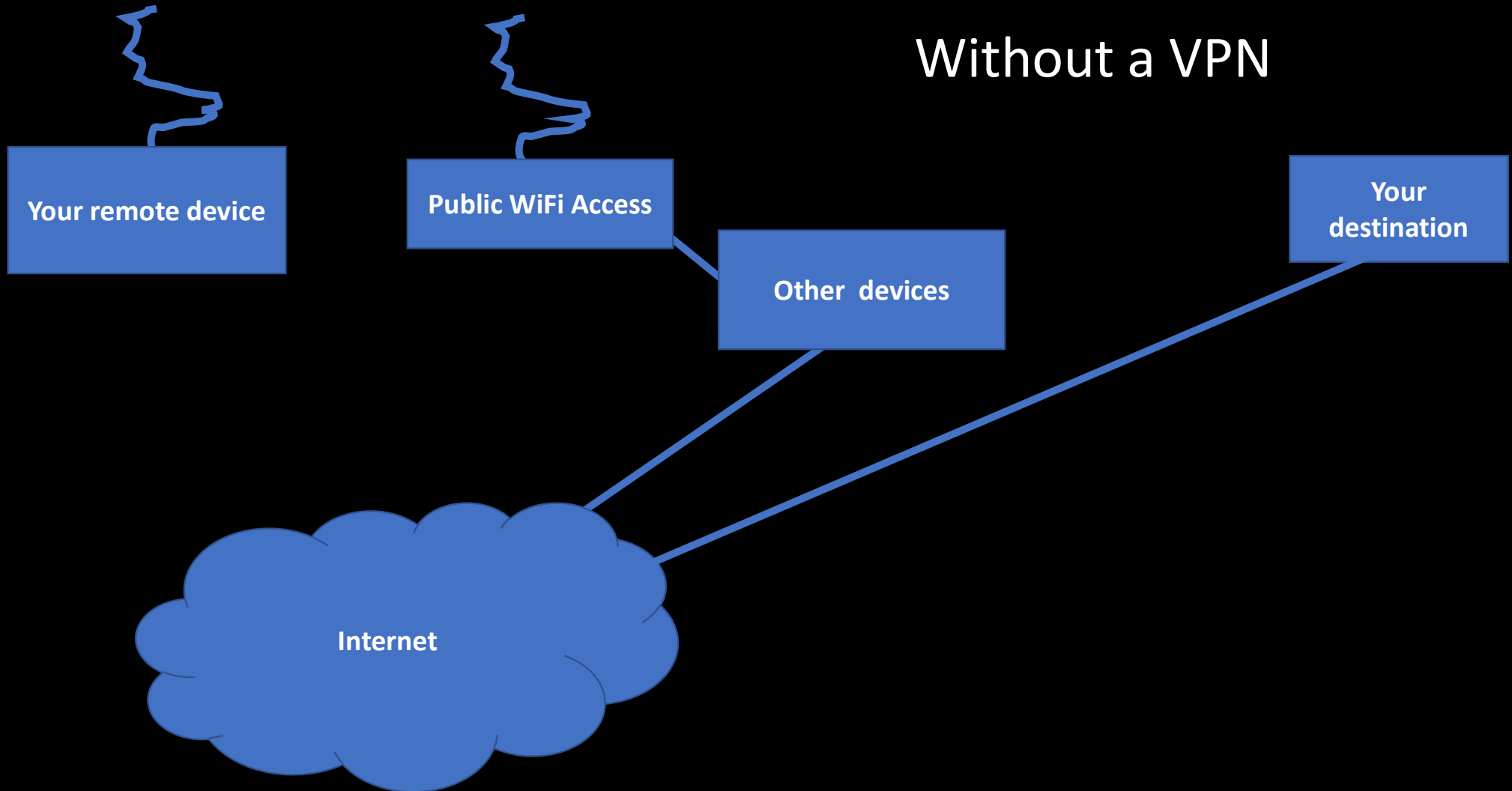
What is a VPN?

- A method to encrypt all of your device's Internet traffic - not just your browser data via HTTPS. Once you're connected to any Wi-Fi, the VPN s/w makes a 'tunnel' through which every piece of network traffic is sent.
- That traffic comes out the other end of the tunnel at your VPN server and is then decrypted and routed on to the final Internet destination.
- Considerations:
 - 1) There is a slowdown in your Internet traffic.
 - 2) You're relying on the trustworthiness and security of your VPN service to protect your privacy and provide security.

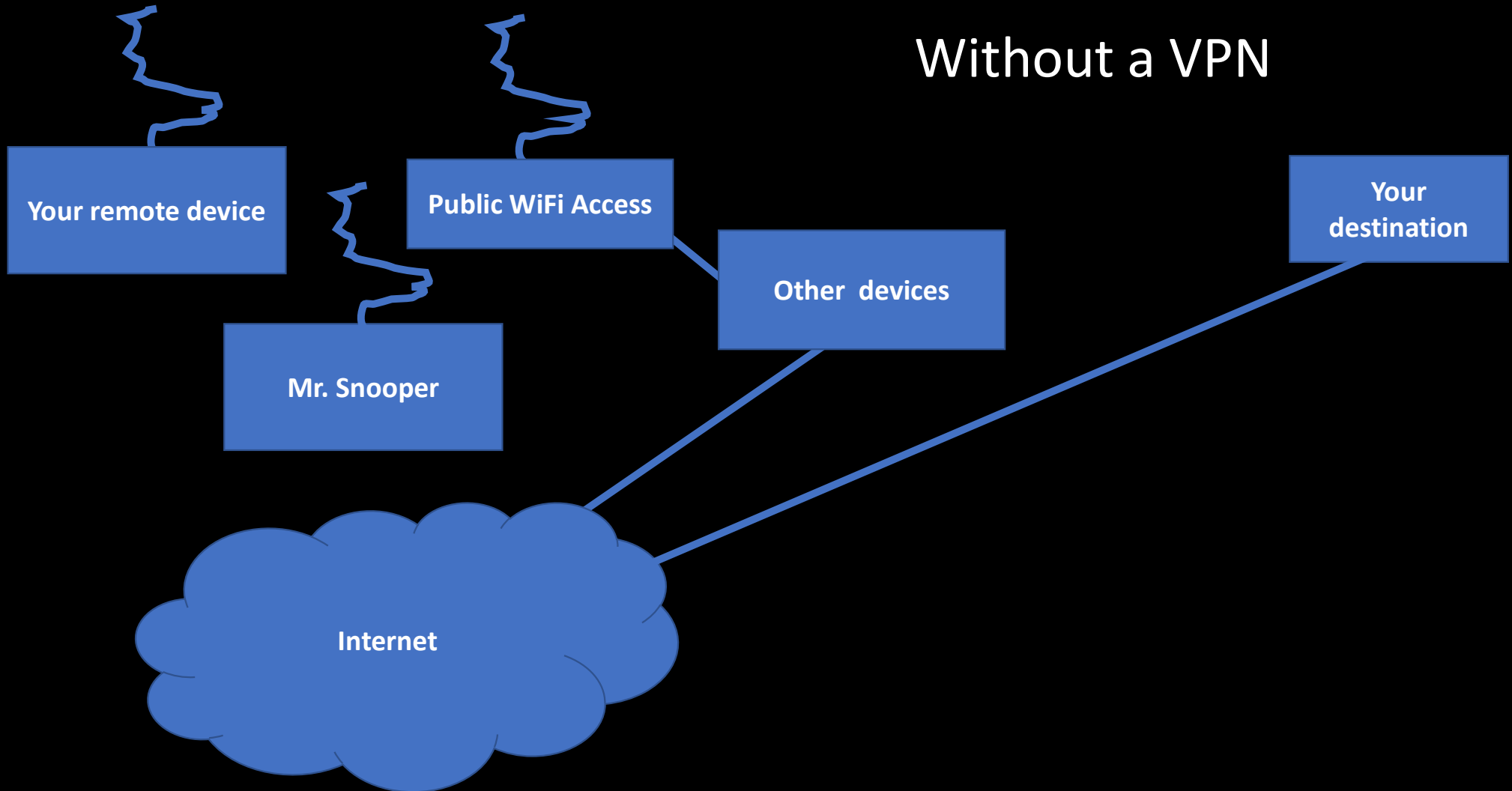
Why would you want a VPN?

- For security reasons especially while on a public Wi-Fi network at hotels, coffee shops, libraries, restaurants, convention centers, retail stores, medical offices, ...
- Hide your destinations from the ISP to prevent targeted ads, preserve your privacy, etc.
- Bypass firewalls and/or blocked domains on the public Wi-Fi
- Make it appear that you are in a different geographic location. E.g., Some streaming services might have country restrictions on what you get to see.
- If you use your own VPN server: A way to connect into your home network even while away to access files, print a document, send a fax, benefit from your ad-blocker, access your smart devices, etc.

Without a VPN



Without a VPN





Wi-Fi Sniffers

11 Best Wi-Fi Sniffers – Wireless Packet Sniffers In 2021

1. SolarWinds Network Performance Monitor
2. Paessler Packet Capture
3. Acrylic Wi-Fi
4. TCPdump
5. Wireshark
6. ManageEngine NetFlow Analyzer
7. Fiddler
8. EtherApe
9. Kismet
10. Capsa
11. Ettercap

Top 25 Prominent Wireless Hacking Tools (Updated for 2021)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Aircrack-ng | 13. Wireshark |
| 2. AirSnort | 14. Cloudcracker |
| 3. Kismet | 15. CommView for WiFi |
| 4. Cain and Abel | 16. Wifiphisher |
| 5. CoWPAtty | 17. KisMac |
| 6. OmniPeek | 18. Wifite |
| 7. Airjack | 19. WepDecrypt |
| 8. InSSIDer | 20. Pyrit |
| 9. WepAttack | 21. Network Mapper (NMAP) |
| 10. Reaver | 22. IKECrack |
| 11. Fern Wifi Cracker | 23. KARMA |
| 12. NetStumbler | 24. Yersinia |
| | 25. Airedon |

Other Threats While on Wi-Fi

- Man-in-the-middle attacks: The attacker sets up a Wi-Fi network that monitors your traffic and then passes it on.
- Fake web sites: The attacker sets up a web site that copies the look of a real site to entice you to try to login. He will then capture your username and password.
- Data replacement: Substitute data returned from real web site with false data
- Many, many other ways

Wireshark Capture

Wireshark capture window showing network traffic on Ethernet 2. The packet list displays several DNS queries and responses, along with an ICMP Echo (ping) request. The packet details pane shows the structure of the selected packet (Frame 17: 74 bytes on wire).

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
10	1.231361	HP8740	igmp.mcast.net	IGMPv3	78	Membership Report / Join group 224.0.0.252 for any sources / Join group 2...
11	1.748045	2601:49:102:e0b:c8c1:6e64:f8f4:7c9d	2601:49:102:e0b::1	DNS	94	Standard query 0x7542 A wells Fargo.com
12	1.748173	2601:49:102:e0b:c8c1:6e64:f8f4:7c9d	2601:49:102:e0b::1	DNS	94	Standard query 0x1641 AAAA wells Fargo.com
13	1.773708	Berman	RaspberryPi1	DNS	74	Standard query 0x1641 AAAA wells Fargo.com
14	1.773709	Berman	RaspberryPi1	DNS	74	Standard query 0x7542 A wells Fargo.com
15	1.784193	2601:49:102:e0b::1	2601:49:102:e0b:c8c1:6e...	DNS	142	Standard query response 0x7542 A wells Fargo.com A 159.45.170.143 A 159.45...
16	1.784574	2601:49:102:e0b::1	2601:49:102:e0b:c8c1:6e...	DNS	145	Standard query response 0x1641 AAAA wells Fargo.com SOA nsx.wells Fargo.com
17	1.790210	RaspberryPi1	Berman	DNS	74	Standard query response 0x1641 AAAA wells Fargo.com
18	1.790921	Berman	wells Fargo.com	ICMP	74	Echo (ping) request id=0x0001, seq=8/2048, ttl=128 (no response found!)
19	1.810770	RaspberryPi1	Berman	DNS	122	Standard query response 0x7542 A wells Fargo.com A 159.45.66.143 A 159.45...

Frame 17: 74 bytes on wire (592 bits), 74 bytes captured (592 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{02D77C28-7964-4A00-A8E2-23F4E5DD048F}, id 0

Ethernet II, Src: Raspberr_ab:58:61 (b8:27:eb:ab:58:61), Dst: Berman (2c:4d:54:d2:8c:26)

Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: RaspberryPi1 (192.168.15.5), Dst: Berman (192.168.15.104)

User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: domain (53), Dst Port: 54008 (54008)

Domain Name System (response)

```

0000  2c 4d 54 d2 8c 26 b8 27  eb ab 58 61 08 00 45 00  ,MT..&..'..Xa..E.
0010  00 3c a3 bf 40 00 40 11  f7 33 c0 a8 0f 05 c0 a8  <...@.@. 3.....
0020  0f 68 00 35 d2 f8 00 28  00 40 16 41 81 80 00 01  .h.5...(.@.A....
0030  00 00 00 00 00 00 0a 77  65 6c 6c 73 66 61 72 67  .....w ellsfarg
0040  6f 03 63 6f 6d 00 00 1c  00 01  o.com... ..
  
```

PS C:\Users\donal> ping wells Fargo.com

Pinging wells Fargo.com [159.45.170.143] with 32 bytes of data:

Request timed out.

Request timed out.

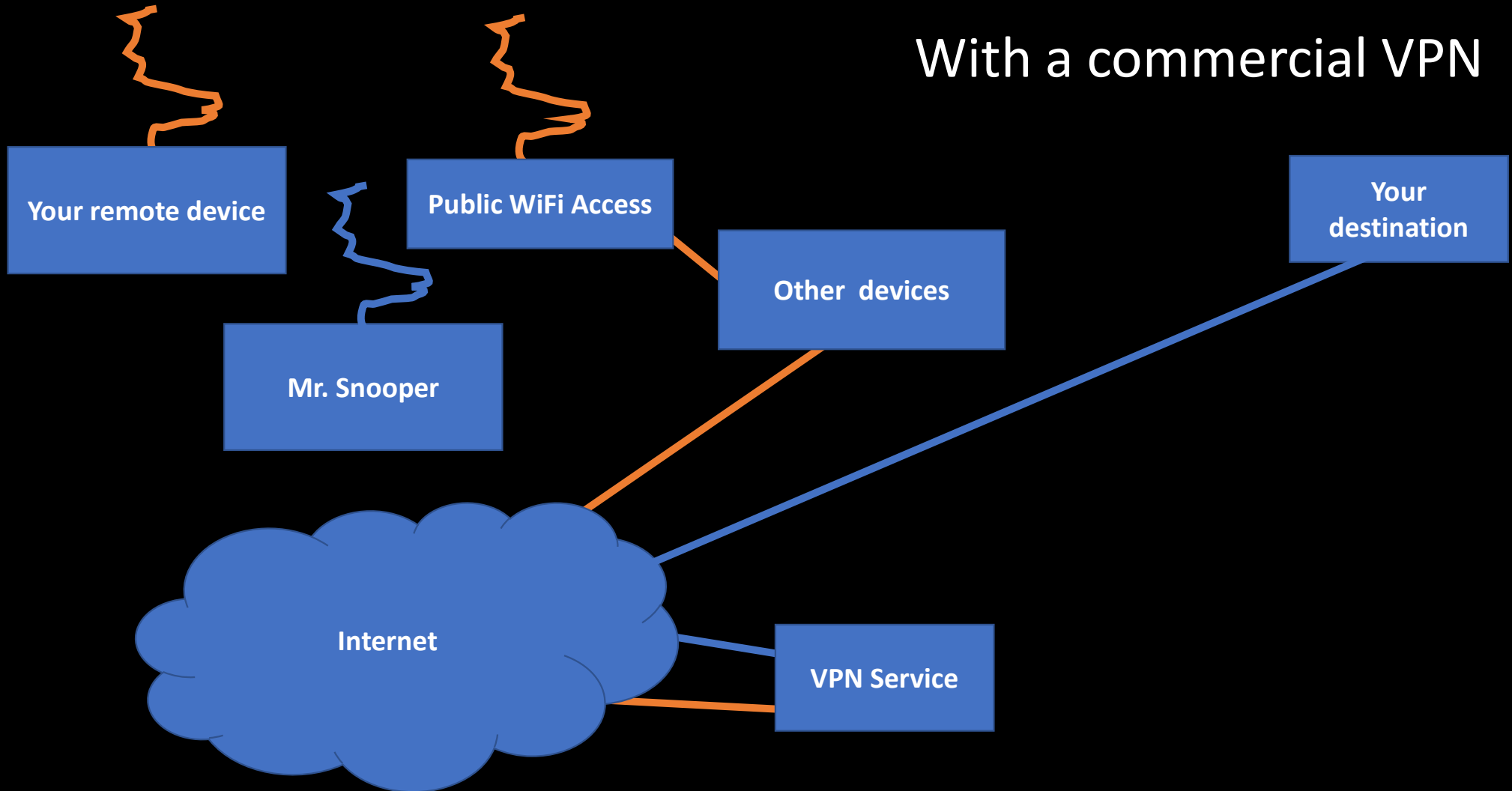
Request timed out.

Request timed out.

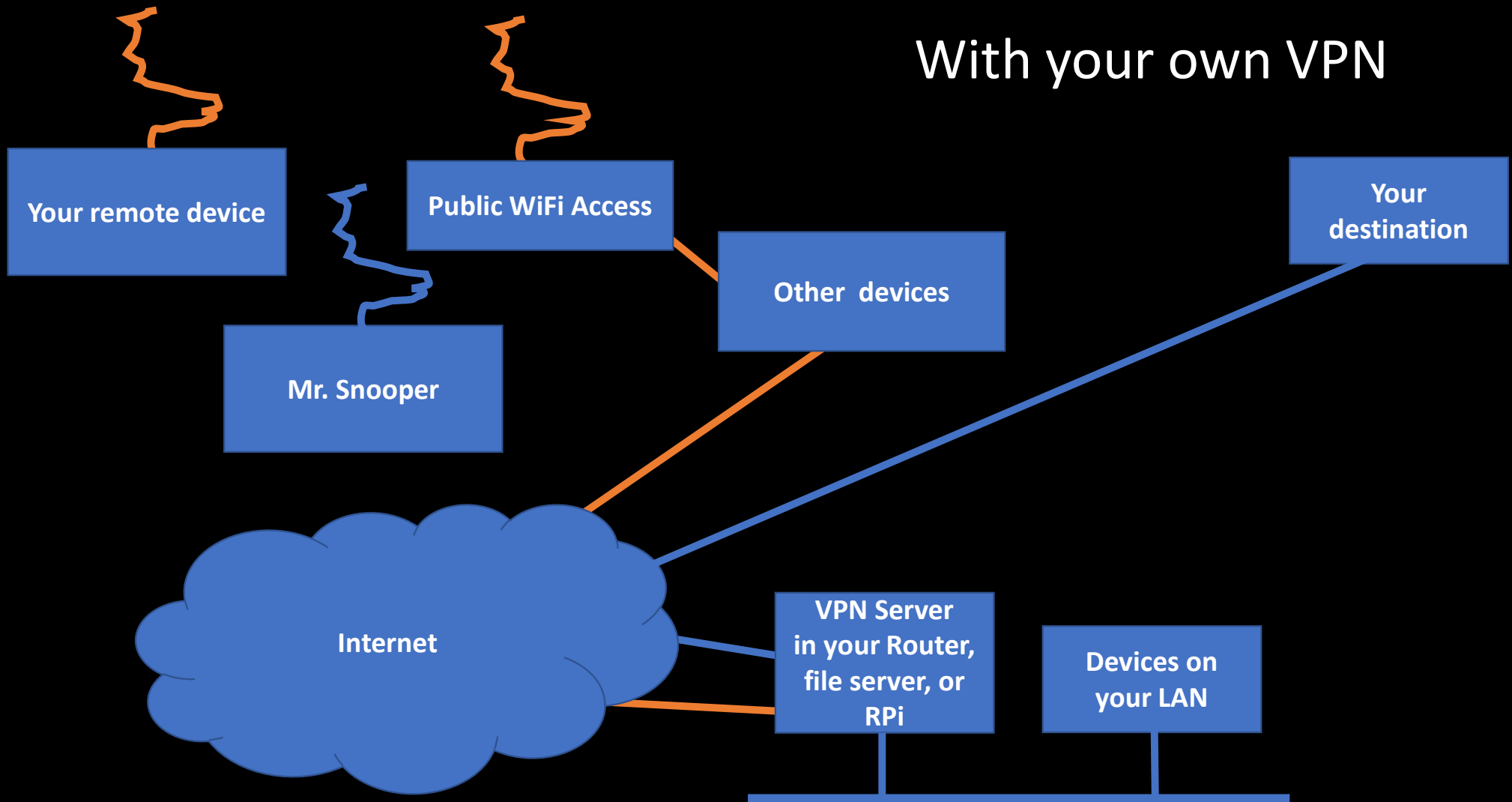
Ping statistics for 159.45.170.143:

Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 0, Lost = 4 (100% loss),

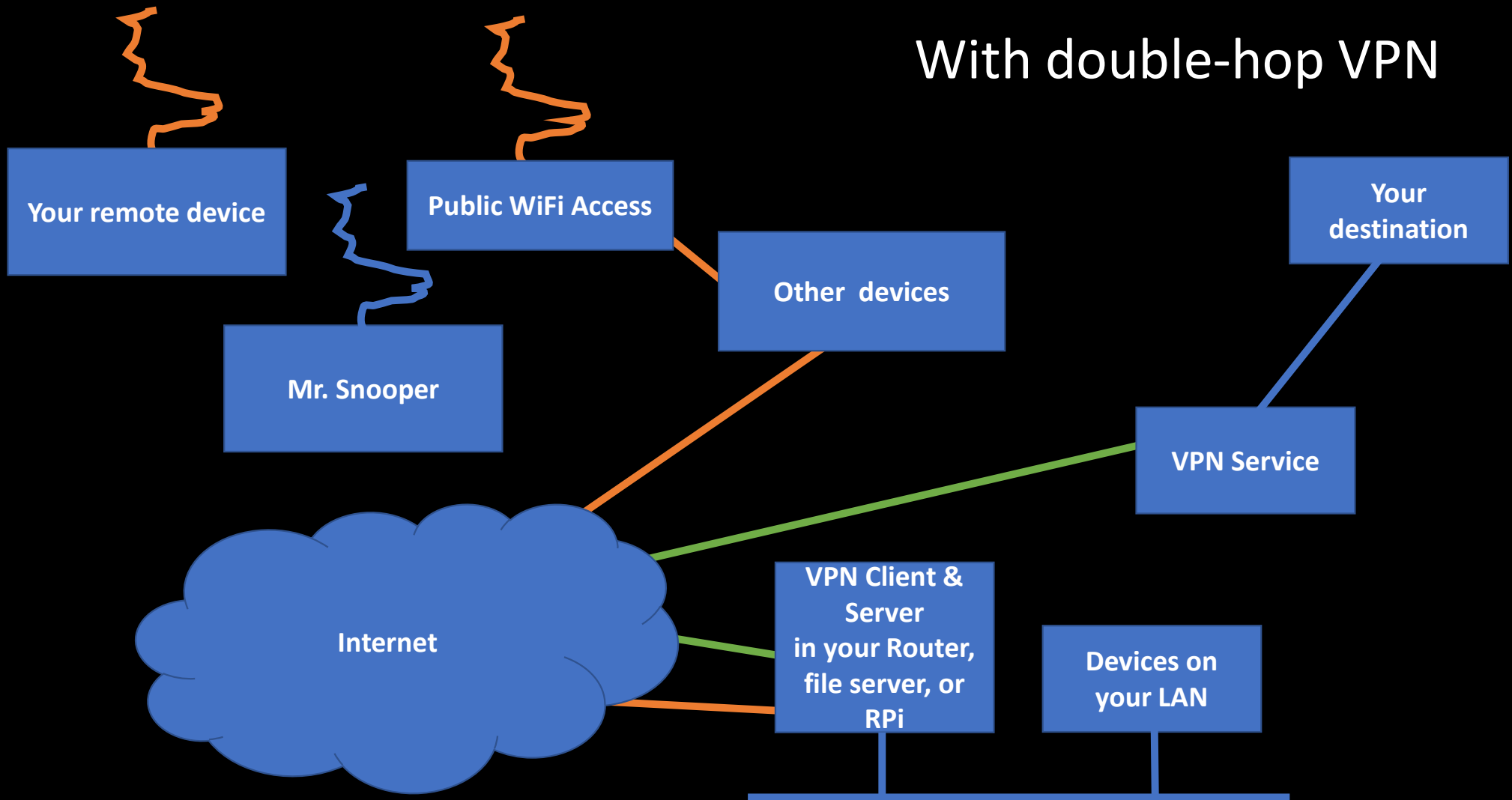
With a commercial VPN



With your own VPN



With double-hop VPN



VPNs relocate you!

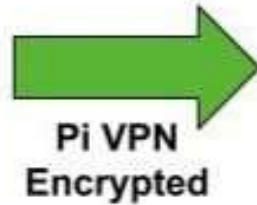
At a cafe

At your home

Anywhere

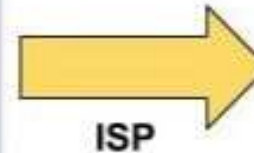
Mobile devices

- Smartphones
- Tablets
- Laptops
- Remote PCs



Local network

- Shared files
- Video, music
- Smart devices
- Home printers



Internet

- Bypass filters and firewalls
- Strong encryption
- Complete privacy

How do you get a VPN?


- Numerous commercial services are available for a fee or free.
- Note that a free service probably has limited performance and/or limited allowable traffic.
- If you're looking for trust and privacy, you'd be dependent on whatever service you subscribe to. A free service might not be the most trustworthy. Check references.
- If you pay for a security suite, it may include a VPN service – often with performance limits – with upgraded plans available.
- Or, stay tuned to see how to run your own VPN server for free. This is the only way to give you access to your home LAN.

Commercial VPN Services

From **How to Choose the Best VPN Service for Your Needs**

- **ExpressVPN** – This VPN server has the best combination of ease-of-use, really fast servers, and supports streaming media and torrenting, all for a cheap price. [\$9.99/mo]
- **Tunnelbear** – This VPN is really easy to use, is great for using at the coffee shop, and has a (limited) free tier. It's not good for torrenting or streaming media though. [\$4.99/mo]
- **StrongVPN** – not quite as easy to use as the others, but you can definitely use them for torrenting and streaming media. [\$5.83/mo]

How much does a VPN slow my Internet speed?

 PC PCMag.com	Download Speed Percent Change	Upload Speed Percent Change	Latency Percent Change
Top Scores in <i>Red</i>	(Lower Is Better)	(Lower Is Better)	(Lower Is Better)
Hotspot Shield VPN	26.7%	40.4%	26.2%
Surfshark VPN	28.3%	4.5%	35.3%
HMA VPN	42.2%	58.9%	35.4%
TigerVPN	49.8%	54.3%	55.8%
Mullvad VPN	59.5%	20.0%	41.5%
NordVPN	63.0%	57.3%	67.5%
Encrypt.me VPN	63.4%	59.9%	53.6%
IPVanish VPN	66.2%	52.5%	62.4%
Median Results	68.5%	63.6%	69.6%

4:42 M

N VoLTE 75%



Wi-Fi: 864240405



Network speed exceed: 98%



Download Mbps

114

Upload Mbps

6.11

📶 Ping 11ms

📶 Jitter 6ms

📶 Loss 0%

Connected
to my
network

4:44 M [Icons]

[Icons] VoLTE [Icons] 74% [Battery Icon]



Wi-Fi: [Network Name]



Network speed exceed: **88%**



Download Mbps

33.7

Upload Mbps

19.6

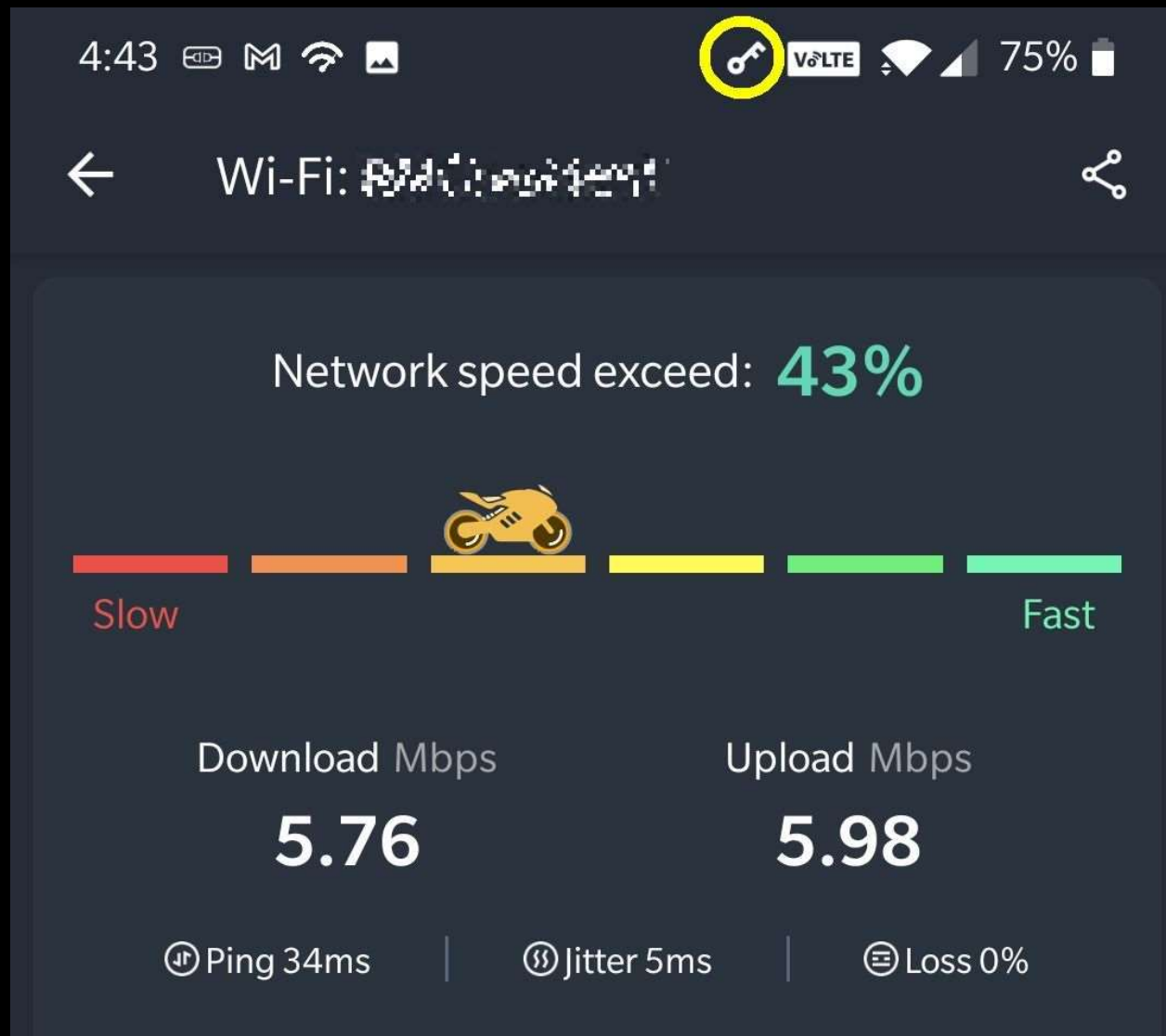
Ⓜ Ping 15ms

Ⓜ Jitter 5ms

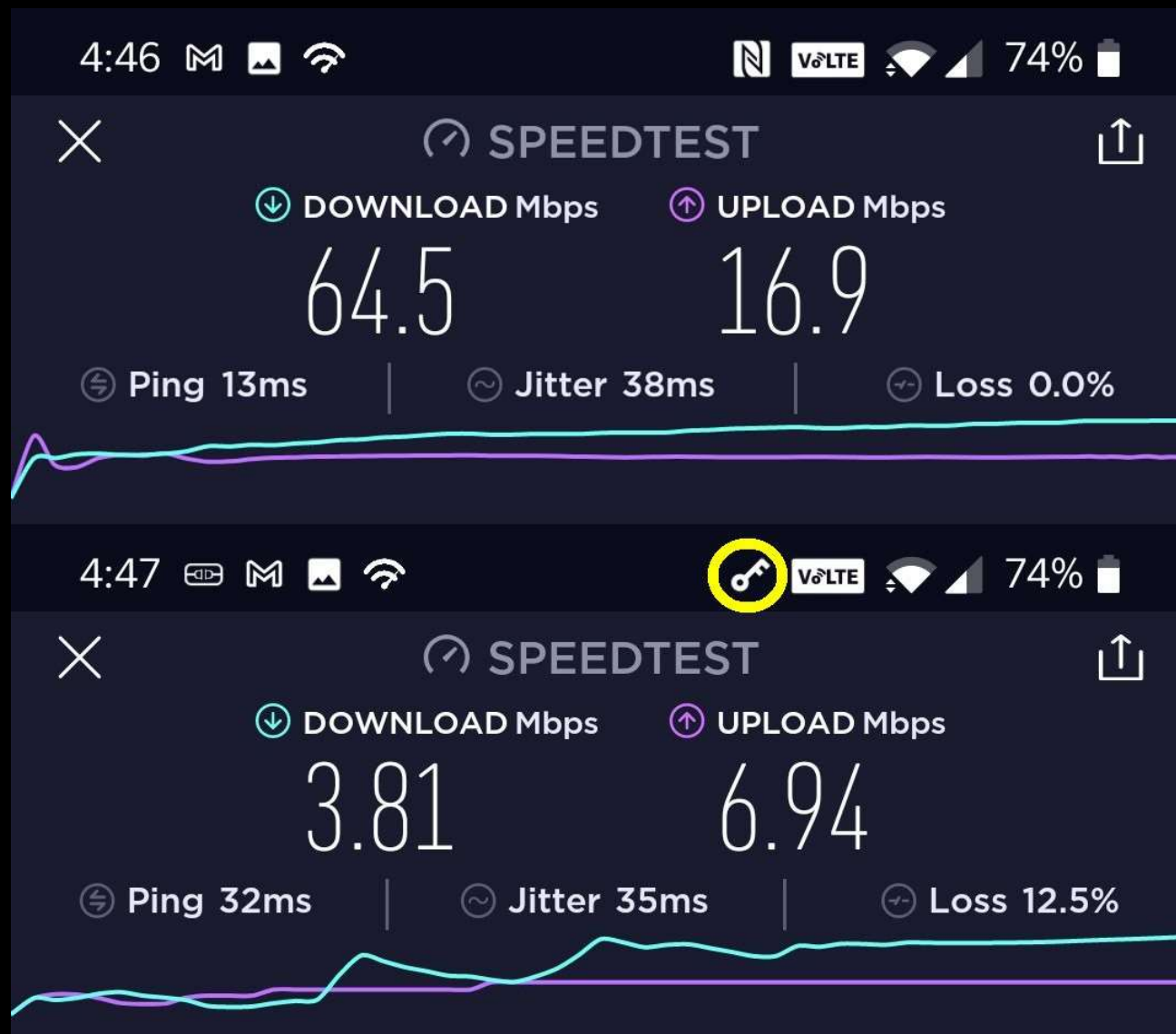
Ⓜ Loss 0%

Connected
to an open
network

Connected
to an open
network
with VPN
running



A different speed app comparison with VPN off and then on.

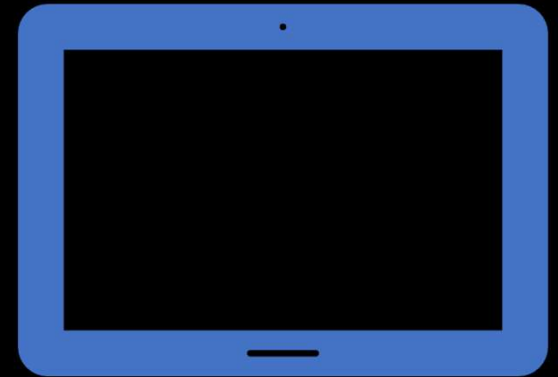


How do you use a VPN?

- Each laptop, smartphone, tablet, etc. needs to run client software to make its half of the connection.
- This client s/w is usually supplied by the service you are subscribed to.
- Just connect and that's all!

VPN client vs. server mode

- Client piece runs on your phone, tablet, laptop, etc.
- Server piece can run on various devices: network file server (FreeNAS/TrueNAS, Synology, ...), Raspberry Pi, router, ...
- Many routers can run in VPN client mode to send all of your LAN traffic to a VPN server and shield your data from your ISP.

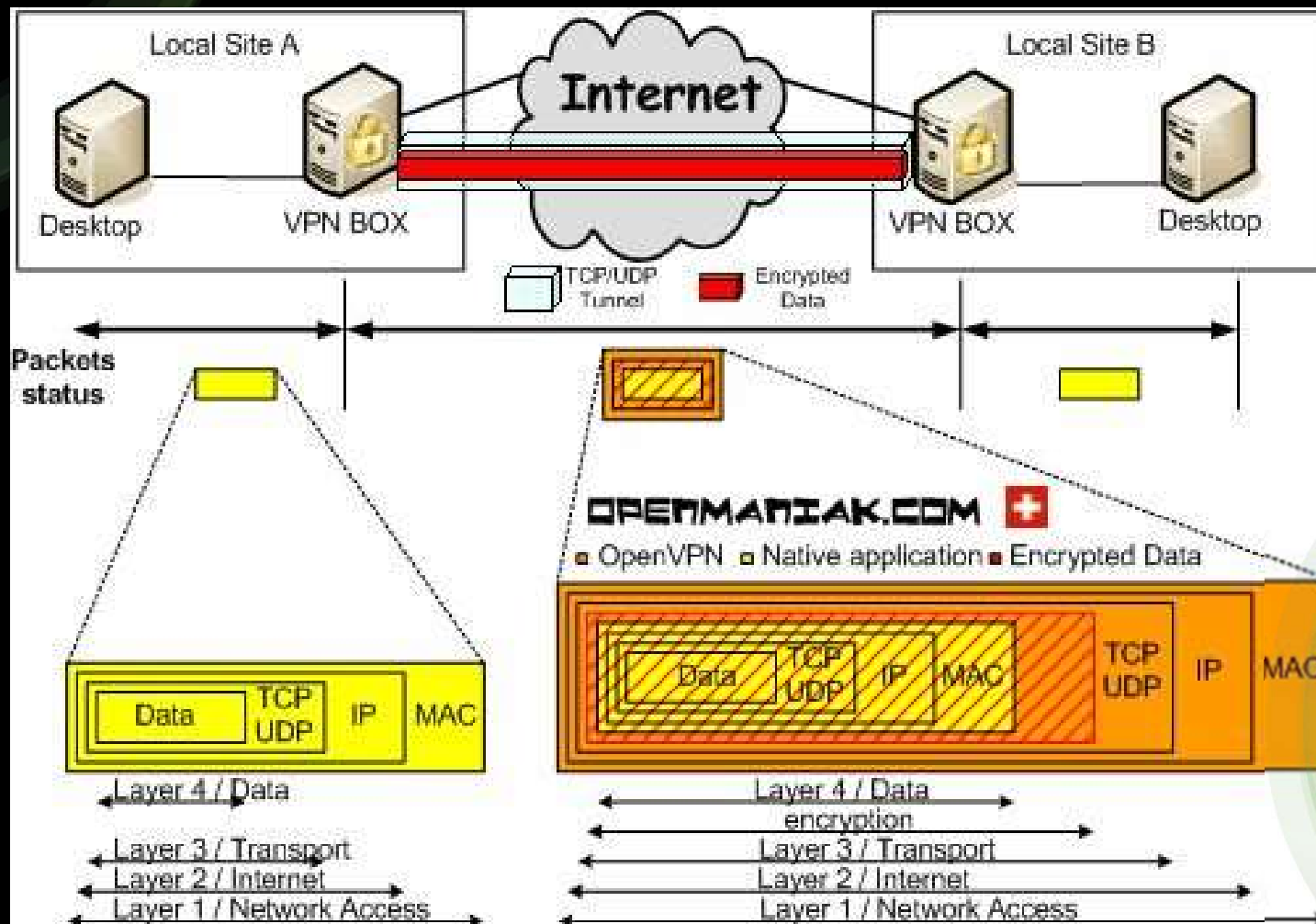




VPN protocols

- PPTP - Point-to-point tunneling protocol (insecure)
- L2TP/IPSEC - Layer 2 tunneling protocol / IP Security (two-steps = slower)
- SSTP - Secure socket tunneling protocol (Microsoft proprietary)
- OpenVPN - Best one is OpenVPN from both technical and cost standpoints. It's free/open source and widely used.
- Wireguard - aims for better performance and more power saving than the IPsec and OpenVPN. Newest option uses the latest most secure current encryption methods and is FOSS.

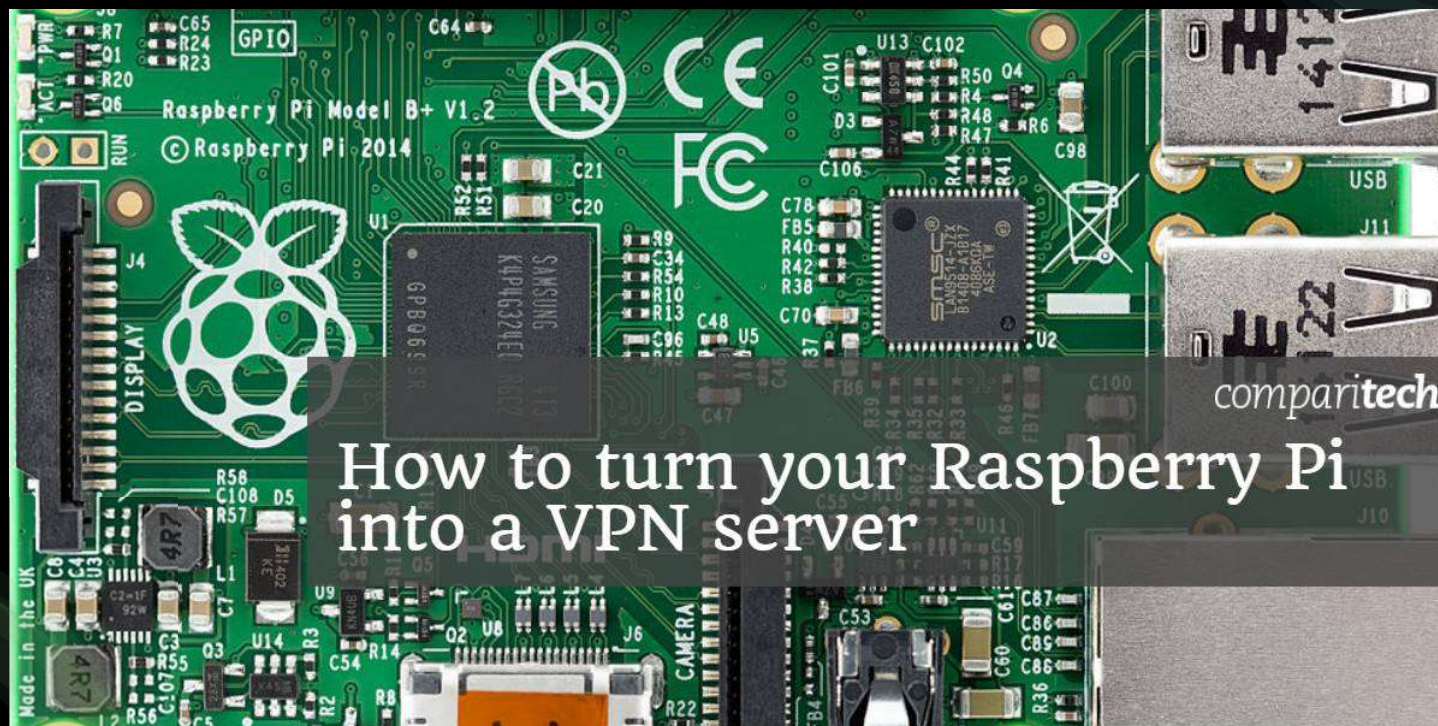
OpenVPN Packet Format



Additional notes when using your own VPN

- Possible bump: Some ISPs (Comcast...) use Carrier Grade NAT (CGN) to expand their number of IP addresses by using a second layer of Network Address Translation (NAT). CGN will disrupt having your own server. Calling the ISP and explaining that you want CGN removed because of a VPN will often work.
- If you're using cable broadband, your downstream speed may be very good, but your upstream speed is likely to be much less (<10%). Since the VPN will utilize about the same amount of up and down bandwidth, that will contribute to a general slowdown.

Install OpenVPN Server on a Raspberry Pi



Configuring OpenVPN on a router

- Several router mfrs. include OpenVPN software, usually in higher-end units ([ASUS](#), [TP-Link](#), [Linksys](#), [Netgear](#), ...).
- If they don't include OpenVPN, many routers can be flashed with different firmware that supports OpenVPN ([Tomato](#), [DD-WRT](#), [Openwrt](#), ...).
- My router is an [ASUS RT-AC86U](#) and the balance of this talk will be about using this or another ASUS router as a VPN server. The basic tasks will also apply to other routers using OpenVPN.

But first, DDNS

- The VPN client will need to connect to the VPN server from anywhere which means the server needs to have either a static IP or an FQDN that points to it.
- To allow a client's DNS (Domain Name System) server to translate a domain name into an IP address, for the majority of us without a static IP address, a DDNS (Dynamic DNS) service is needed
- There are many free services; I use both ChangeIP.com and NoIP.com for redundancy. How they work: You run some software on your LAN that alerts the DDNS whenever your external IP changes or at least once a month. Conveniently, many routers including my ASUS incorporate this updating feature.
- My router can update one service and checks the WAN address every few minutes. A forced update happens every two days even with no IP change.
- I use DNS-O-Matic to update the two DDNS services plus DNS service OpenDNS. DNS-O-Matic is a free service from OpenDNS.

Additional notes about static IP

- I use Comcast as my ISP. They will issue a static IP only to business Internet accounts – which cost more than home accounts. With a business account I believe the extra cost for a static IP is \$30/mo.
- And business accounts with static IPs must use Comcast's gateway. You would have to put their gateway into bridge mode to be able to use your own router with VPN. You might have a problem forwarding the needed port to connect to a VPN server on your LAN.

DNS Manager

Portal Home / Domain Management

Domain: ██████████.changeip.net

Total Records:1

[Select All](#) | [Cancel All](#)

Hostname	Type	Value	TTL	Set 1	Set 2
@	A	69.██████████	30	No	No

[Save](#)[Add Record](#)[Cancel](#)



Support



Language



Dashboard

Dynamic DNS

No-IP Hostnames

Personal Hostnames

Groups

Dynamic Update Client

Device Configuration Assistant

My Services

Account

Support Center

Add Priority Support

Hostnames

Create Hostname

Search...



Create Hostname

Hostname

Last Update

IP / Target

Type

no-ip.org

Expires in 8 days

Apr 15, 2019
11:14 EDT

69

A



Modify



Free Hostnames expire every 30 days. Enhanced Hostnames never expire.
Upgrade to Enhanced

Hostname Count

1 / 3

Purchase More Hostnames

my@af22123 2019-05-02T17:57:39Z web03

Feedback

Settings for: — Select a network —


Dynamic IP addresses

OpenDNS supports networks ranging from single IP addresses, dynamic or static, on up to /16. [Learn more](#) about dynamic IPs.

Network verification

For individual IP addresses, verification is self-service, if you can click on a link from the network IP address. Networks larger than a single IP address are verified by OpenDNS employees reviewing account info and public records (like whois).

Add a network




IP: . . . Settings: OpenDNS default settings [ADD THIS NETWORK](#)

Your networks

LABEL	IP	STATS
69.147.129.100	69.147.129.100	 

[DELETE](#)

Keep your network's IP up-to-date with our free software.
Available for [Windows](#) and [Mac OS X](#).

Support: [Knowledge Base](#) | [CacheCheck](#) | [System Status](#) | [Forums](#)News & Notes: [OpenDNS Blog](#) Connect:   

The OpenDNS nameservers are 208.67.222.222 and 208.67.220.220.

Your current IP is 69

(Sign out)

OpenDNS.com

Dashboard

Community

OpenDNS dashboard

HOME

STATS

SETTINGS

MY ACCOUNT

SUPPORT

TELL A FRIEND

Settings for:

Add/manage networks

Web Content Filtering

Security

Customization

Stats and Logs

Advanced Settings

Users can contact you

Your users can contact you directly from the block page if they have questions. It'll show up as an email in your inbox.

Note about DNS forwarding

If you are forwarding requests to OpenDNS, domain blocking may not work properly if the domain's address is in your forwarder's cache.

Check a domain

[Find out](#) whether it would be blocked, and why.

Web Content Filtering

Choose your filtering level

- ☐ **High** Protects against all adult-related sites, illegal activity, social networking sites, video sharing sites, and general time-wasters. 28 categories in this group - [View](#) - [Customize](#)
- ☐ **Moderate** Protects against all adult-related sites and illegal activity. 15 categories in this group - [View](#) - [Customize](#)
- ☐ **Low** Protects against pornography. 6 categories in this group - [View](#) - [Customize](#)
- ☒ **None** Nothing blocked.
- ☐ **Custom** Choose the categories you want to block.

APPLY

Manage individual domains

If there are domains you want to make sure are always blocked (or always allowed) regardless of the categories blocked above, you can add them below.

Always block

ADD DOMAIN

Web Content Filtering

Security

Customization

Stats and Logs

Advanced Settings

Users can contact you

Your users can contact you directly from the block page if they have questions. It'll show up as an email in your inbox.

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Check a domain

[Find out](#) whether it would be blocked, and why.

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- ☐ **High** Protects against all adult-related sites, illegal activity, social networking sites, video sharing sites, and general time-wasters.
28 categories in this group - [View](#) - [Customize](#)
- ☐ **Moderate** Protects against all adult-related sites and illegal activity.
15 categories in this group - [View](#) - [Customize](#)
- ☐ **Low** Protects against pornography.
6 categories in this group - [View](#) - [Customize](#)
- ☐ **None** Nothing blocked.
- ☒ **Custom** Choose the categories you want to block.

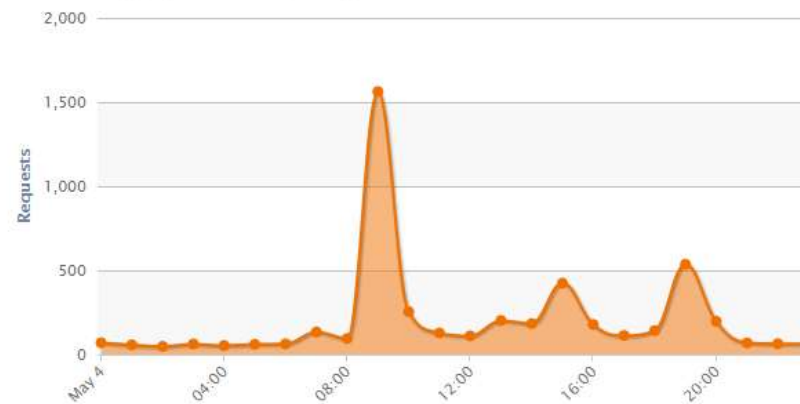
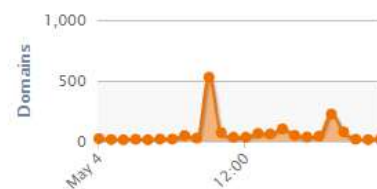
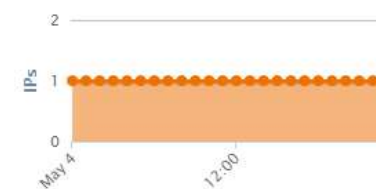
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Fraud | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult Themes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adware |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alcohol | <input type="checkbox"/> Anime/Manga/Webcomic | <input type="checkbox"/> Auctions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Automotive | <input type="checkbox"/> Blogs | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chat | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Classifieds | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dating |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drugs | <input type="checkbox"/> Ecommerce/Shopping | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Institutions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File Storage | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Institutions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forums/Message boards |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gambling | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Games | <input type="checkbox"/> German Youth Protection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hate/Discrimination | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Fitness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Instant Messaging | <input type="checkbox"/> Jobs/Employment |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lingerie/Bikini | <input type="checkbox"/> Movies | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> News/Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profits | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nudity |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P2P/File sharing | <input type="checkbox"/> Parked Domains | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photo Sharing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Podcasts | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pornography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proxy/Anonymizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religious | <input type="checkbox"/> Research/Reference | <input type="checkbox"/> Search Engines |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexuality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Networking | <input type="checkbox"/> Software/Technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sports | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tasteless | <input type="checkbox"/> Television |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Video Sharing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual Search Engines | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weapons | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Spam |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Webmail | | |

Looking for [security categories](#)?

APPLY

View Stats for: [Total Requests](#)[Total Unique Domains](#)[Unique IPs](#)[Domains](#)[Blocked Domains](#)[Request Types](#)**This is your Dashboard**

Every element on this page is designed to give you a quick snapshot look into your DNS. Dive deeper for customizable charts, tables and raw data.

Recent Activity (all your networks, last day)**Unique Domains****Unique IPs****Request Types**

Type	Requests
A	2562
SOA	2
AAAA	2310

Domains

Domain	Requests
dyndns.domains.live.com	240
teredo.ipv6.microsoft.com	238
array613-prod.do.dsp.mp.microsoft.com	121

Easily announce your new IP to the world. Here's how.

1. Sign in and choose your services.





















2. Send updates to DNS-O-Matic.



3. We'll update all of your chosen services.



Your Services / [expand all](#)

SERVICE	STATUS	HISTORY	ACTIVE?
 ChangeIP  ::  .changeip.net	69.  Apr 15, 2019 11:14 am		
 No-IP  ::  .no-ip.org	69.  Apr 15, 2019 11:14 am		
 OpenDNS  :: 	69.  Apr 15, 2019 11:14 am		

ASUS RT-AC86U

LogoutRebootEnglish

Quick Internet Setup

Operation Mode: **Wireless router** Firmware Version: **3.0.0.4_384_45149**SSID: **ASUS-RTAC86U**

App

General

Network Map

Guest Network

AiProtection

Adaptive QoS

Traffic Analyzer

Game Boost

USB Application

AiCloud 2.0

Advanced Settings

Wireless

LAN

WAN

IPv6

VPN

Internet Connection

Dual WAN

Port Trigger

Virtual Server / Port Forwarding

DMZ

DDNS

NAT Passthrough

WAN - DDNS

DDNS (Dynamic Domain Name System) is a service that allows network clients to connect to the wireless router, even with a dynamic public IP address, through its registered domain name. The wireless router is embedded with the ASUS DDNS service and other DDNS services.
If you cannot use ASUS DDNS services, please go to <http://iplookup.asus.com/nslookup.php> to reach your internet IP address to use this service.

Enable the DDNS Client

☒ Yes ☐ No

Server

www.dnsomatic.comFree Trial

Host Name

all.dnsomatic.com

Username or E-mail Address

Password or DDNS Key

.....

Enable wildcard

☐ Yes ☒ No

WAN IP and hostname verification

☐ Yes ☒ No

HTTPS/SSL Certificate

☒ Free Certificate from Let's Encrypt ☐ Import Your Own Certificate ☐ None

Apply

Available DDNS services

www.dnsomatic.com

www.asus.com

domains.google.com

www.dyndns.org

www.dyndns.org (custom)

www.dyndns.org (static)

www.selfhost.de

www.zoneedit.com

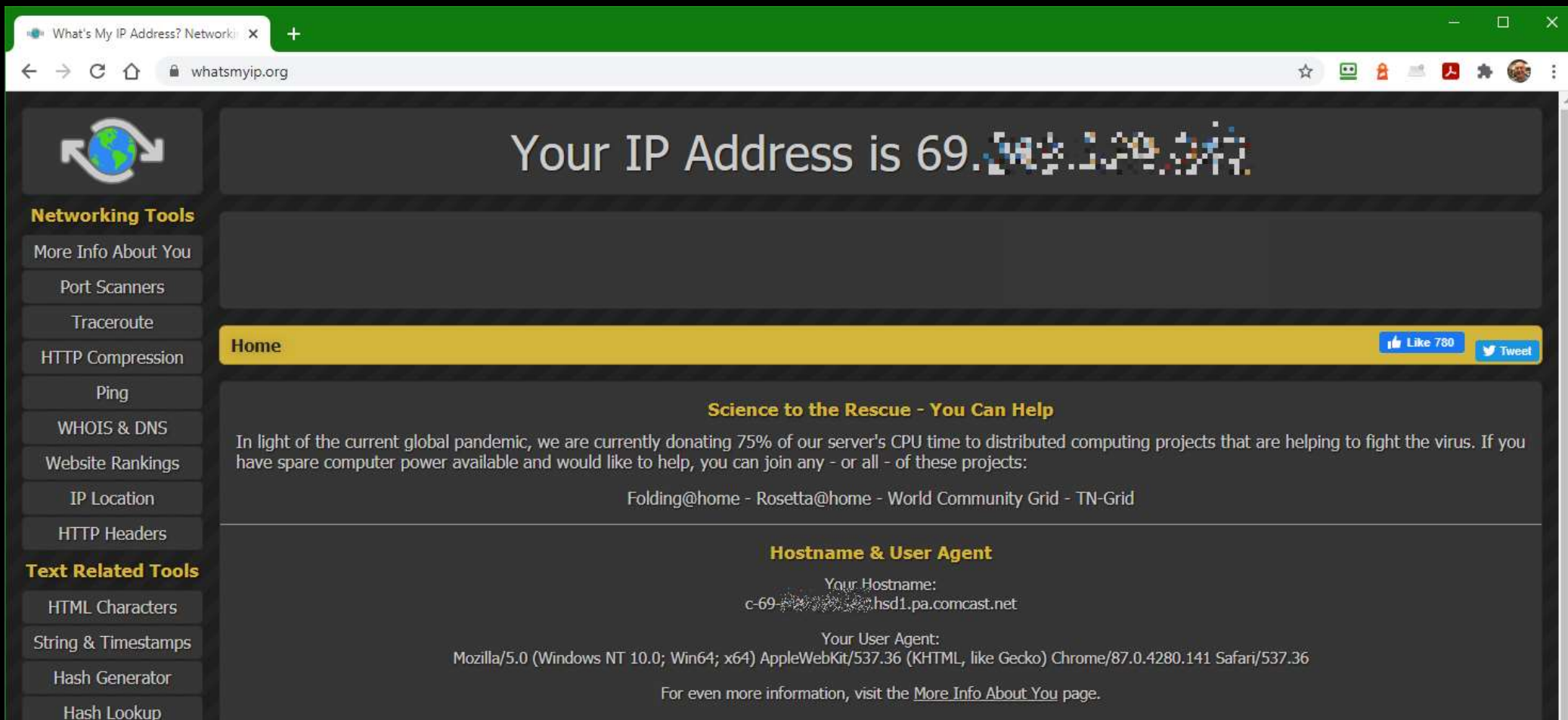
www.dnsomatic.com

www.tunnelbroker.net

www.no-ip.com

www.oray.com (花生壳)

Find the current IP address



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'whatsmyip.org'. The page has a dark theme with a green header bar. On the left, there is a sidebar with a 'Networking Tools' section containing links like 'More Info About You', 'Port Scanners', 'Traceroute', 'HTTP Compression', 'Ping', 'WHOIS & DNS', 'Website Rankings', 'IP Location', and 'HTTP Headers'. Below this is a 'Text Related Tools' section with links for 'HTML Characters', 'String & Timestamps', 'Hash Generator', and 'Hash Lookup'. The main content area features a large display of the IP address '69.171.229.141' with a globe icon. Below the IP address is a yellow 'Home' button with social media share options for Facebook (780 likes) and Twitter. A section titled 'Science to the Rescue - You Can Help' contains a message about donating server CPU time to fight the virus and lists projects: Folding@home, Rosetta@home, World Community Grid, and TN-Grid. At the bottom, there is a 'Hostname & User Agent' section showing 'Your Hostname: c-69-171-229-141.hsd1.pa.comcast.net' and 'Your User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/87.0.4280.141 Safari/537.36'. A link to 'More Info About You' is provided for further details.

What's My IP Address? Network | X

whatsmyip.org

Your IP Address is 69.171.229.141

Networking Tools

- More Info About You
- Port Scanners
- Traceroute
- HTTP Compression
- Ping
- WHOIS & DNS
- Website Rankings
- IP Location
- HTTP Headers

Text Related Tools

- HTML Characters
- String & Timestamps
- Hash Generator
- Hash Lookup

Home Like 780 Tweet

Science to the Rescue - You Can Help

In light of the current global pandemic, we are currently donating 75% of our server's CPU time to distributed computing projects that are helping to fight the virus. If you have spare computer power available and would like to help, you can join any - or all - of these projects:

Folding@home - Rosetta@home - World Community Grid - TN-Grid

Hostname & User Agent

Your Hostname:
c-69-171-229-141.hsd1.pa.comcast.net

Your User Agent:
Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/87.0.4280.141 Safari/537.36

For even more information, visit the [More Info About You](#) page.

Check that changeip.net domain will resolve

```
PS C:\Users\donal> ping 69.128.224.100.changeip.net
```

```
Pinging 69.128.224.100.changeip.net [69.128.224.100] with 32 bytes of data:
```

```
Reply from 69.128.224.100: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
```

```
Reply from 69.128.224.100: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
```

```
Reply from 69.128.224.100: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
```

```
Reply from 69.128.224.100: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
```

63	2.079174	2601:49:102:e0b:7196:7f6c:7e9b:4ce	2601:49:102:e0b::1	DNS	100 Standard query 0x4b0d A 69.128.224.100.no-ip.org
64	2.079383	2601:49:102:e0b:7196:7f6c:7e9b:4ce	2601:49:102:e0b::1	DNS	100 Standard query 0xe689 AAAA 69.128.224.100.no-ip.org
65	2.095672	2601:49:102:e0b::1	2601:49:102:e0b:7196:7f...	DNS	116 Standard query response 0x4b0d A 69.128.224.100.no-ip.org A 69.128.224.100
66	2.100548	2601:49:102:e0b::1	2601:49:102:e0b:7196:7f...	DNS	160 Standard query response 0xe689 AAAA 69.128.224.100.no-ip.org SOA nf1.no-ip.com

Check that no-ip.org domain will resolve

```
PS C:\Users\donal> ping 69.128.224.100.no-ip.org
```

```
Pinging 69.128.224.100.no-ip.org [69.128.224.100] with 32 bytes of data:
```

```
Reply from 69.128.224.100: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
```

```
Reply from 69.128.224.100: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
```

```
Reply from 69.128.224.100: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
```

```
Reply from 69.128.224.100: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
```

86	2.724784	2601:49:102:e0b:7196:7f6c:7e9b:4ce	2601:49:102:e0b::1	DNS	103 Standard query 0xe7d2 A 69.128.224.100.changeip.net
87	2.724925	2601:49:102:e0b:7196:7f6c:7e9b:4ce	2601:49:102:e0b::1	DNS	103 Standard query 0x11aa AAAA 69.128.224.100.changeip.net
88	2.761698	192.168.15.104	192.168.15.5	DNS	83 Standard query 0xe7d2 A 69.128.224.100.changeip.net
89	2.761698	192.168.15.104	192.168.15.5	DNS	83 Standard query 0x11aa AAAA 69.128.224.100.changeip.net
90	2.763126	2601:49:102:e0b::1	2601:49:102:e0b:7196:7f...	DNS	119 Standard query response 0xe7d2 A 69.128.224.100.changeip.net A 69.128.224.100
91	2.763126	2601:49:102:e0b::1	2601:49:102:e0b:7196:7f...	DNS	171 Standard query response 0x11aa AAAA 69.128.224.100.changeip.net SOA ns1.changeip.org

How about IPv6 DDNS?



[My Hosts](#) [Documentation](#) [\[redacted\]](#)

My Hosts

[+ Create new Host](#)

Name	Address/Prefix	Last update
[redacted] dynv6.net	[redacted]	-

dynv6.com

And now, we can setup OpenVPN

- Now we can configure the router. Pick the protocol and answer the questions. The router will generate a file with a security certificate along with other parameters. You will need to import that file into each client's software.
- Free OpenVPN client apps are available for Windows, Linux, Mac, Android (via Google Play Store), and iOS (via Apple store).

ASUS RT-AC86U

LogoutReboot

English

Quick Internet Setup

Operation Mode: **Wireless router** Firmware Version: **3.0.0.4.384_45149**

SSID: **ASUS-RT-AC86U**

VPN ServerVPN Client

VPN Server - OpenVPN

PPTPOpenVPNIPSec VPN

Basic Config

Enable OpenVPN Server

ON

VPN Details

General

RSA Encryption

1024 bit

2048 bit

Client will use VPN to access

Local network only

Internet and local network

Export OpenVPN configuration file

Export

Export Current Certification

Export

Import Original Certification

Upload

RT-AC86U will automatically generate a .ovpn file with the Certification Authority key. You can provide the .ovpn file with a username and password to all users connecting to the OpenVPN server. You can change the default settings of the OpenVPN server to provide a custom OPVN file for a specific connection type. If your WAN IP address is dynamic, please click [here](#) to set the DDNS. To change OpenVPN server settings, go to Advanced Settings

1. [Windows](#)

2. [Mac OS](#)

3. [iPhone/iPad](#)

4. [Android](#)

Username and Password (Max Limit : 16)

Connection Status	Username	Password	Add / Delete
-			+
Disconnected	admin	-	-
Disconnected	arrowsmith	-	-

General

Network Map

Guest Network

AiProtection

Adaptive QoS

Traffic Analyzer

Game Boost

USB Application

AiCloud 2.0

Advanced Settings

Wireless

LAN

WAN

IPv6

VPN

Firewall

Administration

 AiMesh

 Guest Network

 AiProtection

 Adaptive QoS

 Traffic Analyzer

 Game

 Open NAT

 USB Application

 AiCloud 2.0

Advanced Settings

 Wireless

 LAN

 WAN

 IPv6

 VPN

 Firewall

 Administration

 System Log

 Network Tools

Basic Config

Enable OpenVPN Server

ON

VPN Details

Advanced Settings

You can change the default settings of the OpenVPN server to provide a custom OPVN file for a specific connection type.
To use your own key, click the yellow link to modify settings.

Refer to the [System Log](#) for any error messages related to OpenVPN.

Before configuring the advanced settings of the OpenVPN server, ensure that these advanced settings options are compatible with the OpenVPN software in the client devices.

Advanced Settings

Interface Type

TUN

Protocol

UDP

Server Port

1194

Due to security concerns, we suggest using a port from 1025 to 65535.

Respond to DNS

☒ Yes ☐ No

Advertise DNS to clients

☒ Yes ☐ No

Encryption cipher

AES-128-CBC

HMAC Authentication

SHA 1

Compression

Adaptive

Username / Password Auth. Only

☐ Yes ☒ No

Authorization Mode

TLS

[Content modification of Keys & Certification.](#)

RSA Encryption

☒ 1024 bit ☐ 2048 bit

Extra HMAC authorization

Disable

(TLS-Auth)

VPN Subnet / Netmask

10.8.0.0

255.255.255.0

Push LAN to clients

☒ Yes ☐ No

Direct clients to redirect Internet traffic

☒ Yes ☐ No

TLS Renegotiation Time

-1

seconds (Default : -1)

Manage Client-Specific Options

☐ Yes ☒ No

Custom Configuration

Additional notes

- If you are using multiple DDNS, as I am, you will need to edit the configuration file generated by the server. In my case, the router populated the server address and port with DNS-O-Matic rather than one of the target domain names – xxx.ChangeIP.net or xxx.No-IP.org – because the server didn't know about them. The file must be edited before importing it into the client app.
- If you set a NAS server or a Raspberry Pi server to be your VPN server, you will need to forward a port on your router to get the client packets to the right place on your LAN. Since I am using my router, it opens that port (usually 1194) automatically as part of enabling the VPN server function.

client.ovpn

This is a text file – mine is shown in two columns with the certificate/key data omitted:

```
remote all.dnsomatic.com 1194
float
nobind
proto udp
dev tun
sndbuf 0
rcvbuf 0
keepalive 15 60
comp-lzo adaptive
auth-user-pass
client
auth SHA1
cipher AES-128-CBC
ns-cert-type server
```

```
<ca>
-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----
<- omitted ->
-----END CERTIFICATE-----
</ca>

<cert>
-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----
<- omitted ->
-----END CERTIFICATE-----
</cert>

<key>
-----BEGIN PRIVATE KEY-----
<- omitted ->
-----END PRIVATE KEY-----
</key>
```


My apps

Shop

Games

Family

Editors' Choice

Account

Payment methods

My subscriptions

Redeem

Buy gift card

My wishlist

My Play activity

Parent Guide



OpenVPN Connect – Fast & Safe SSL VPN Client

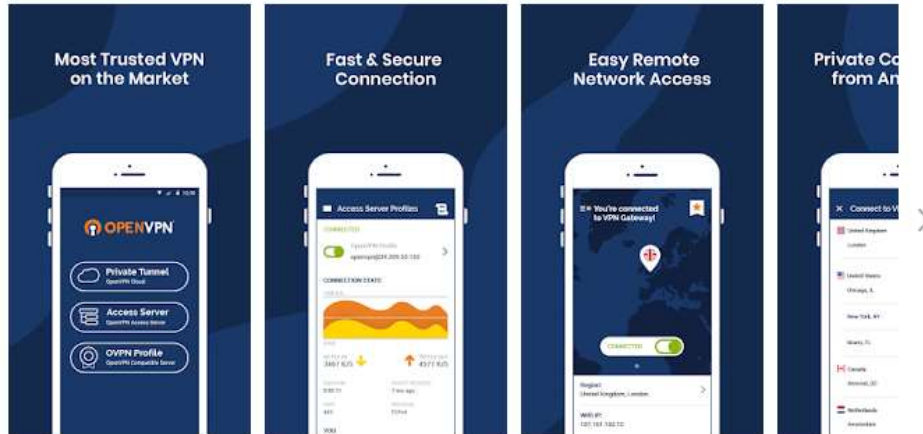
OpenVPN Tools

★★★★☆ 157,706

Everyone

This app is compatible with all of your devices.

Installed



WHAT IS OPENVPN CONNECT?

OpenVPN Connect is the official VPN application for Android developed by OpenVPN, Inc. It is a

[Mac](#)[iPad](#)[iPhone](#)[Watch](#)[TV](#)[Music](#)[Support](#)

App Store Preview

This app is only available on the App Store for iOS devices.



OpenVPN Connect 17+

OpenVPN Technologies

★★★★★ 3.9, 2.2K Ratings

Free

Screenshots

[iPhone](#)[iPad](#)

Most Trusted VPN
on the Market



Fast & Secure
Connection



Easy Remote
Network Access



Private Connection
from Anywhere





[BUSINESS
VPN](#)

[CONSUMER
VPN](#)

[SUPPORT](#)

[COMMUNITY](#)

[GET OPENVPN](#)

Installation guide for OpenVPN Connect Client on Windows

[← GO BACK](#)

Introduction

This guide is meant for users of the OpenVPN Access Server product that wish to connect their Windows computer using the official OpenVPN Connect Client software. In the steps outlined below we'll take you through the process of obtaining the OpenVPN Connect Client from your Access Server's web interface, and installing and using it on the Windows operating system. Aside from some minor differences due to different versions of software used this guide should be accurate and easy to follow. Each step can be clicked to show a screenshot for that particular step in the installation process. Each screenshot can be clicked to reveal an image gallery you can follow to go through all the steps.

Requirements

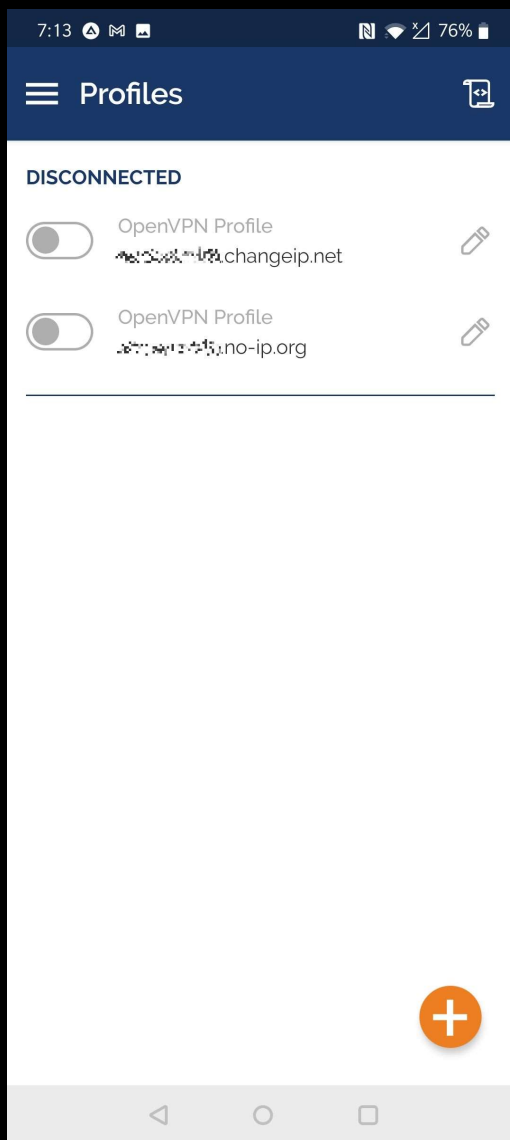
You will need to have a valid set of credentials, like user name and password, and of course the address of your OpenVPN Access Server. If you are not the administrator of the Access Server you are going to connect to, then you should contact the administrator of this server to obtain this information. We here at OpenVPN Inc. cannot provide this information, since we do not manage servers run by our customers. If you are the administrator of your Access Server, you can create new user accounts using the admin web

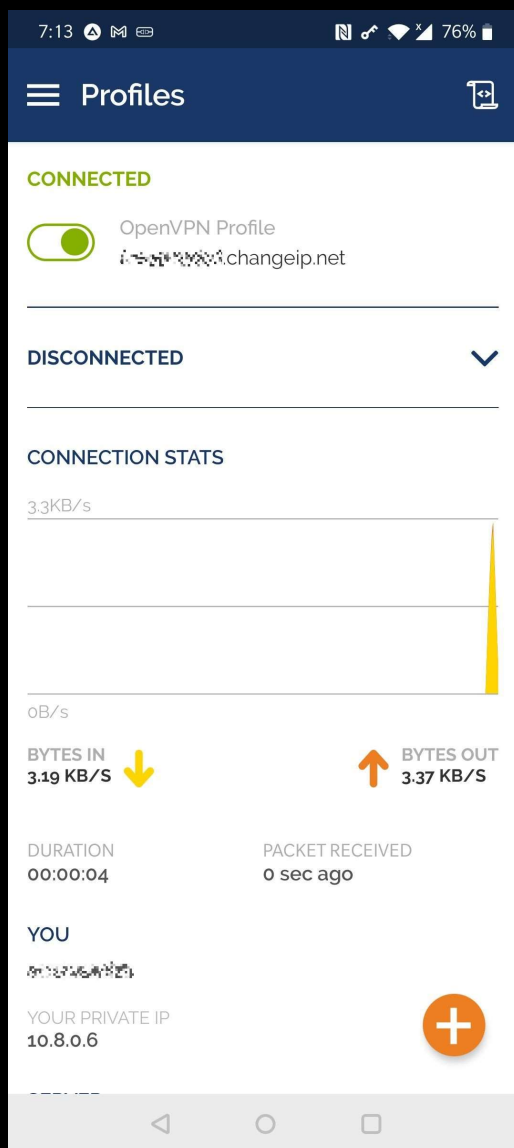
TABLE OF CONTENTS

[INTRODUCTION](#)

[REQUIREMENTS](#)

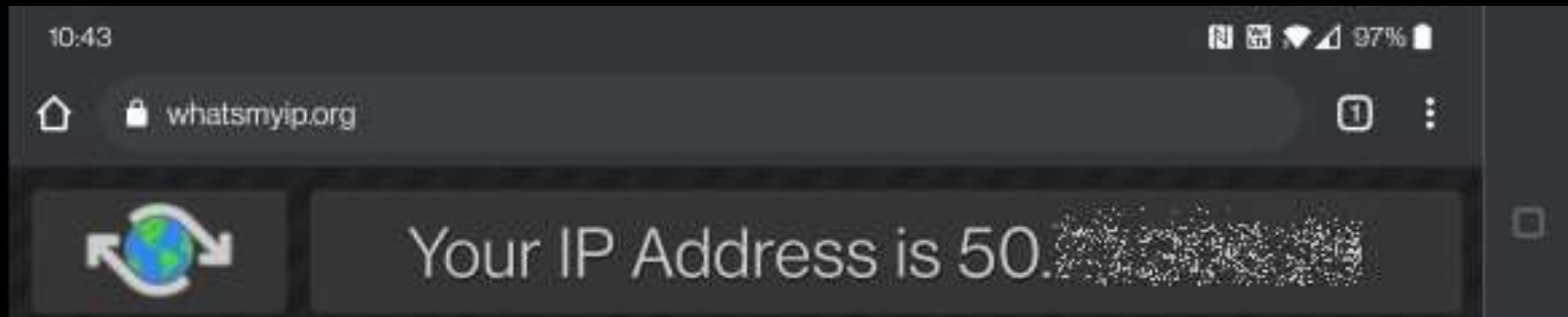
[DOWNLOADING AND
INSTALLING THE OPENVPN
CONNECT CLIENT FOR
WINDOWS](#)



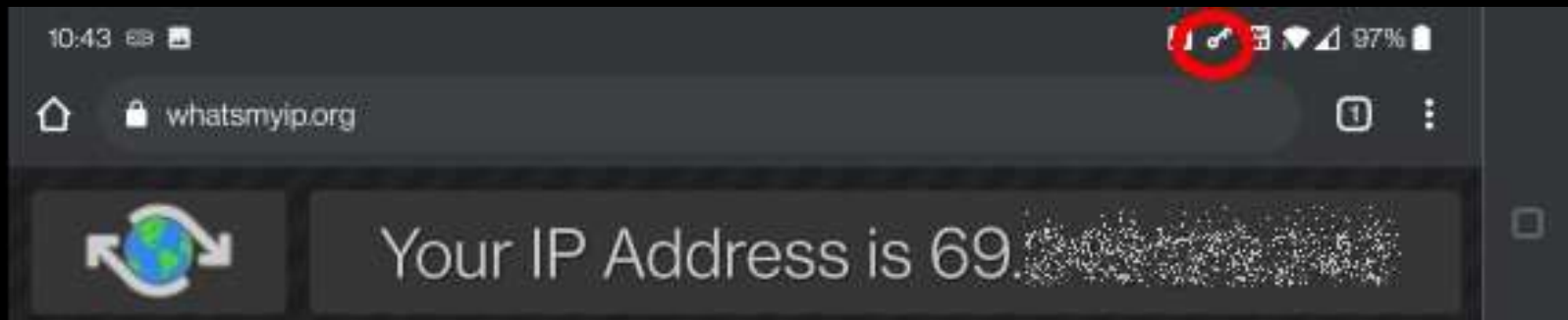


Your location on the Internet

VPN
Off

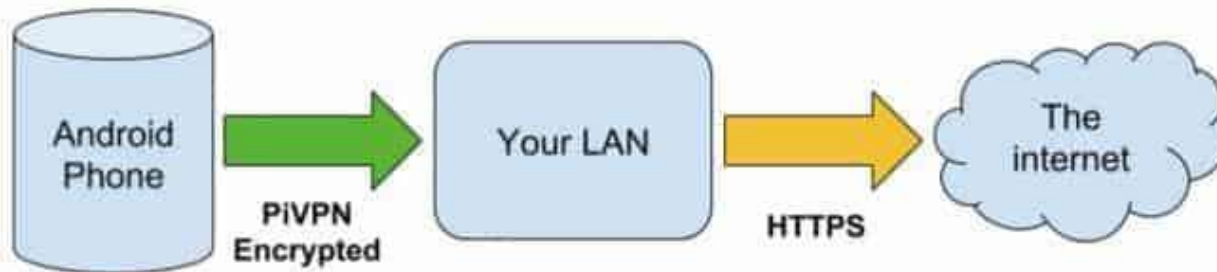


VPN
On

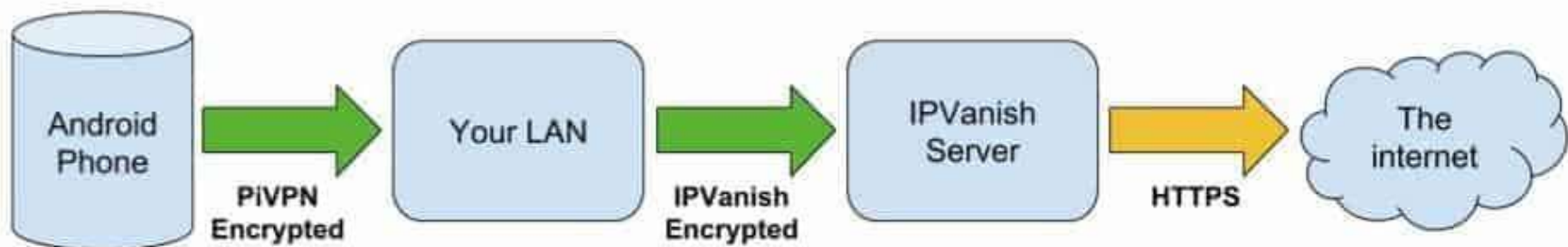


Double-hopped VPN

Single-hop VPN connection



Double-hop VPN chain



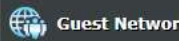


Quick Internet Setup

General



Network Map



Guest Network



AiProtection



Adaptive QoS



Traffic Analyzer



Game Boost



USB Application



AiCloud 2.0

Advanced Settings



Wireless



LAN



WAN



IPv6






VPN



Firewall



Administration

Operation Mode: **Wireless router** Firmware Version: **3.0.0.4.384_45149**SSID: **ASUS-RT-AC86U**App   

VPN Server

VPN Client

VPN - VPN Client

VPN (Virtual Private Network) clients are often used to connect to a VPN server to access private resources securely over a public network.

Some devices like set-top boxes, smart TVs and Blu-ray players do not support VPN software.

The ASUSWRT VPN feature provides VPN access to all devices in a home network without having to install VPN software on each device.

To start a VPN connection, please follow the steps below:

1. Add profile
2. Select a VPN connection type
3. Enter VPN authentication information provided by your VPN provider then connect.

VPN Server List

Connection Status	Description	VPN type	Edit	Delete	Connection
No data in table.					

[Add profile](#)

VPN is only part of a security plan

- Keep your operating system and applications up-to-date to incorporate fixes for vulnerabilities.
- Make sure you have a good anti-virus system in place and regularly updated.
- Be sure you have a working firewall in place.
- Educate yourself on how to spot bad web links and suspicious email attachments.
- Set long, complex passwords and use a password manager to protect them.
- Don't reuse passwords between sites.
- Review and adjust your privacy settings in applications and web sites.
- Follow a good backup strategy.

Web Links

- Best VPNs for USA in 2020 for Privacy, Speed, Value, Unblocking
<https://www.comparitech.com/blog/vpn-privacy/best-vpn-for-usa/>
- How to turn your Raspberry Pi into a VPN server – Installation guide
<https://www.comparitech.com/blog/vpn-privacy/raspberry-pi-vpn/>
- How to Set Up Your Own Home VPN Server
<https://www.howtogeek.com/221001/how-to-set-up-your-own-home-vpn-server/>

Web Links

- Install OpenVPN inside a Jail in FreeNAS/TrueNAS
<https://www.truenas.com/community/threads/step-by-step-to-install-openvpn-inside-a-jail-in-freenas-11-1-u1.61681/>
- The best free VPN services in 2021
<https://www.tomsguide.com/best-picks/best-free-vpn>
- What Is a VPN, and Why You Need One
<https://www.pcmag.com/news/what-is-a-vpn-and-why-you-need-one>

Questions?

Virtual Private Networks
Don Arrowsmith,
Philadelphia Area Computer Society

VPN@ArrowsmithFamily.com

