

Wi-Fi HotSpots for Mobile Phones

What are they?

Internet should be easily and cost-efficiently accessible everywhere on this planet and Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots are emerging for rescue.

Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpot is a phenomenon that is emerging and spreading fast in the Smartphone market. In a nutshell, Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots allow laptops, iPods, and other Wi-Fi capable devices to connect to internet using mobile phone as a 3G modem and internet gateway. Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots are creating a software based alternative to USB dongles that require cable for connectivity and a separate subscription from network operator.

How it works:

Operating principle of a Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpot is extremely simple.

Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpot is a piece of software that installs to a mobile phone. Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpot shares mobile phones 3G internet connection over Wi-Fi (WLAN) to external devices such as laptops or iPods. Laptops and iPods can then connect to internet over Wi-Fi using mobile phone's high speed 3G internet connection. The user of a Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpot literally carries internet HotSpot in his pocket, where ever he may be.

As Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots are software based, no cables or additional hardware are needed to establish the internet connection. The solution effectively replaces the need for carrying additional hardware such as USB dongles by simply using the 3G internet connection offered by a mobile phone to connect to internet.

Multiple Wi-Fi devices can connect to internet in parallel through one Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpot access point. It is user's choice if one wishes to share his mobile 3G bandwidth with external users as HotSpots can be encrypted for secure and controlled access. For cost-efficient and convenient use and maximum speed, the author recommends high speed and unlimited mobile data plans with ones network operator.

The user benefits:

Wi-Fi is easy and 100% wireless

Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots offer a "one-click" access to internet. With one click, the user can transform his phone to a mobile Wi-Fi HotSpot. External devices can then connect simply by scanning the open Wi-Fi networks near-by and clicking "connect".

Cost savings

No additional hardware or cables are needed. No separate internet connection subscription is needed beyond mobile phone's data plan.

Speed

Wi-Fi connection is many times faster than e.g. Bluetooth connection. The actual speed depends on mobile data plan and the network being used.

Use cases:

There are many use cases where Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots come handy.

- Seamlessly connect your Apple iTouch or iPod to web via mobile Wi-Fi HotSpot, and turn it to a 3G iPhone in a second.
- Imagine a business meeting, where you can simply place your phone on the table, and ask everyone to wirelessly connect to internet via your phone's HotSpot.

What are Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots ?

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- Imagine your summer cottage, and how much money you will save when you don't need any equipment or connections installed or carried along there. Your phone goes with you and so does your laptop, and that's enough to make the internet connection.
- HotSpots in airports, hotels, conference centres and cafes may be offered with quite costly rate and typically require configuration work, entering credit card details and in some cases even hassling around with wires to set-up. Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpot saves you this hassle and the cost involved.
- Surf the web while on the train or in the car. You can make most use of your train or car trips and use the internet wirelessly on your laptop the whole journey.
- Happen to have a sailing boat? Brag to your friends for having an integrated Wi-Fi HotSpot in your sailing boat!

Benefits for corporates and operators:

With Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots, corporates can enjoy increase in employee productivity, when web, email and corporate intranet access is made simple and fast to access everywhere, where their employees happen to be. In addition, corporates save money in internal support, when the internal support staff can stop educating how to make the Bluetooth access to web while out of office. Corporates can further get rid of USB modems and related subscription cost.

For network operators, there is no better way to drive up the mobile subscriber data ARPU. Users of Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots upgrade to fixed and higher speed monthly data plans and on average use much more mobile data.

Available solutions:

Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots are emerging. As for today, there are solutions available for multiple Smartphone platforms.

For Windows Mobile, there is a software solution called WMWiFiRouter, available for purchase at JoikuShop:

http://www.joiku.com/shop/index.php?action=products&mode=productDetails&product_id=265

For Symbian S60 (most Nokia phone models), there is a software called JoikuSpot Premium, available for purchase at JoikuShop:

http://www.joiku.com/shop/index.php?action=products&mode=productDetails&product_id=33

There is also a FREE lightweight version of JoikuSpot available for download at Joiku.com:

http://www.joiku.com/index.php?action=products&mode=productDetails&product_id=310

For iPhone, there is a software called NetShare, which is currently withheld from web distribution, but hopefully will appear as a web download soon in the mainstream mobile software download channels such as JoikuShop or Apple iStore.

Author of this article



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Joikusoft (www.joikusoft.com) is the maker of Mobile Wi-Fi HotSpots and distributor of JoikuSpot software.

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