

Re: ADSL connection question

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From: Neil Horman (*nhorman_at_rNeOdShPaMt.com*)

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Justin wrote:

> *Hi everyone!*

>

> *I am going to build a network to share broadband internet at home, its going*

> *to look like:*

>

> *Internet ----- ADSL Modem ---- Router/Firewall ----Switch ---- LAN*

> *computers*

> *(Ethernet)*

>

> *(i dono if I should have hardware router or an old 486 linux router yet)*

>

As long as your 486 can push ~384Kb/sec of data (avg. dsl rate), then your ADSL line will be your bottleneck. I'd just use the 486 with some extra ram chunked in if you have it laying about.

> *These ADSL providers are saying their connection is always on, so I take it*

> *that means static IP etc,*

No. Always on is usually their marketing term for a low/no latency connection. As opposed to a dial up service, where you actually need to dial the ISP phone number, the ADSL modem can forward your LAN traffic shortly after power on with little or no intervention from any machines that you place on your network. However, it does not mean staic IP addresses. Usually, ISP's will provide DHCP services from the C.O., or from a DHCP server running on the DSL modem.

> *"always on" actually means that, and if the modem will always automatically*

> *maintain the connection by itself and dont need something to tell it to*

> *connect.*

Typically, although some ISPs use the term "always-on" as a synonym for DSL, or broadband internet access. They may still assume that you will run a pppoe or simmlar client on one of your host machines. these clients can be configured to start automatically in the background when your system boots, giving the appearance of an "always-on" connection.

But I'm worried that if the "always on" connection somehow goes down,

> *how am I going to tell it to connect from one of the LAN computers (assuming*

> *the modem doesnt auto reconnect)?*

comp.os.linux.networking: Re: ADSL connection question

If your ADSL connection, goes down, then what alternative do you have for getting to the internet? Besides, if the connection goes flickers and the modem doesn't re-negotiate, all you really need to do is power cycle the modem, not the router.

> *given these circumstances is a hardware router going to be a better choice?*
Nope. Its not going to help above and beyond the PC alternative.

HTH

Neil

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