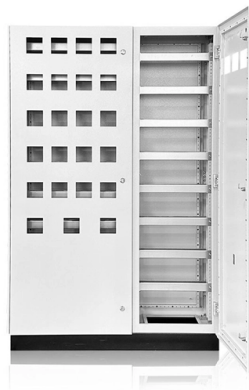


Comparison of Low Noise Level of Telecom-Grade Routers with Imported Brands



Overview

Compare routers side-by-side. Filter by Wi-Fi version, speeds, security features, and more to find the right router for you.

Key Takeaways

Telecom-grade routers generally operate at higher noise levels than consumer or imported brands due to larger cooling systems, but careful selection and power supply optimization can minimize audible disturbance.

Router noise is typically measured in decibels (dB), with a normal conversation around 60 dB and a whisper around 20 dB. Approximate noise ranges are as follows:

- Basic/Home Routers: 20–35 dB – compact, limited features, generally quiet.
- Mid-Range Routers: 30–45 dB – more features, slightly higher noise.
- Gaming Routers: 40–55 dB – high-performance processors and cooling systems increase noise.



- **Enterprise/Telecom-Grade Routers:** 50–70 dB – large, powerful units with multiple fans, often used in data centers or large offices, producing significant audible noise .
- **Factors Affecting Router Noise**
- **Cooling Systems:** Fans in high-performance or telecom-grade routers generate most of the audible noise. Larger routers with multiple fans tend to be louder.
- **Power Supply Quality:** Low-noise or linear power supplies can reduce electromagnetic interference and audible hum, improving perceived quietness .
- **Mechanical Components:** Relays or switches in some routers may produce clicking or ticking sounds.
- **Electromagnetic Interference (EMI):** Poor shielding or aging components can create high-pitched whines .

Practical Considerations

- **Telecom-Grade vs Imported Brands:** Telecom-grade routers prioritize performance, reliability, and scalability over noise, often resulting in higher dB levels. Imported consumer or prosumer routers (e.g., Ubiquiti, TP-Link, MikroTik) are designed for quieter operation in smaller environments while still offering robust performance .
- **Noise Mitigation:** Placing routers in remote locations, using high-quality power supplies, or selecting models with passive cooling can reduce audible noise. In audio-sensitive environments, linear power supplies or low-noise SMPS units can improve sound quality and reduce interference .

Summary

While telecom-grade routers are generally louder due to their size and cooling requirements, imported consumer or prosumer routers often achieve lower noise levels without compromising essential network performance. For environments where noise is critical, selecting routers with optimized cooling, high-quality power supplies, and proper placement can significantly reduce audible disturbance.

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