



Free Wireless Computing @ Plumb Memorial Library

The Plumb Memorial Library is proud to be able to offer wireless Internet access to our patrons. Here are answers to questions you might have about this service.

Q. What is wireless?

A: Wireless access points located in the Library communicate with your wireless device and use radio frequency signals to exchange information between your computer and the Internet. No network cables are required. For the cost of one "wired" computer, the Library is able to make Internet access available to many customers simultaneously, using their own personal wireless computers, with more flexible seating, fewer restrictions and with less demand on existing computers.

Q. What are the advantages of wireless access?

A: No waiting for a free public "wired" PC. No enforced time limits. No restriction that prohibit installing applications or saving files on your own system. Not limited to the normal computer areas of the Library. You may work when, where and how you want within the approved service areas with access speeds greater than dial-up.

Q. Can anyone use this service?

A: The Library's wireless network is open to all patrons; a library card is not required for access. If you have a laptop computer with a wireless interface card, you can use the wireless system at the Library. Wireless access is available during all of the hours the Library is open.

Q. Do the general rules about Library computer use still apply?

A: Computer users at the Library, whether wired or wireless, must agree to abide by the Library's Internet User's Agreement which prohibits abusive, obscene or illegal activity while using the Library's Internet service. Misuse of the Library's computing or network resources, or non-compliance with written usage policies is strictly forbidden. Disruptive behavior while using the Internet will not be allowed. If inappropriate images are displayed in view of others in the Library, the

offending party will be asked to leave the building. Any activities deemed illegal will result in a user's permanent disconnect from the Library's wireless network.

Q. Where can I use wireless in the Library?

A: Wireless Internet access is available throughout the library. Electrical outlets are available at window seats and at the table near the laminator. You may not sit on the floor or stand in between the stacks or in pathways with your laptop computers.

Q. What do I need to access the Library's wireless network?

A: You need a laptop computer with a properly installed 802.11b or 802.11g compatible wireless network card or other wireless device. After you power up your computer, it should automatically recognize the wireless network. Then just click on your browser (i.e. Internet Explorer, Netscape, etc.) and begin searching the Internet. The Library does not provide laptops or wireless network cards.

Q. If my computer does not connect, what can I try?

A: Most WiFi equipment will be compatible. However, the Library can make no guarantees as to the compatibility of your equipment with the Library's network. Make sure your wireless network adapter has been properly installed according to the manufacturer's instructions. To find links to WiFi product support sites, visit <http://www.wi-fi.net/>

Q. Can the Library help me configure my computer?

A: Sorry, the Library cannot accept the liability of handling your equipment. Everyone's computer is different and you are responsible for knowing how to configure your own equipment. The Library cannot be responsible for any changes you make to your computer's settings or for making those changes for you. If you need additional assistance, you may need to contact the hardware or software manufacturer.

Q. Can I print while using wireless?

A: Yes. A wireless printer is available in the Reference area. There is a fee of \$.10 per page.

Q. What about virus protection and security?

A: As with any Internet communication, there is a risk that hackers may try to intercept e-mails, files or data. If security is an important concern, it is recommended WiFi be used only for basic Internet surfing and to avoid sending confidential or sensitive information. It is recommended when using any wireless network connection, do not enable file sharing or print sharing. It is solely the responsibility of the wireless device owner/user to provide anti-virus protection. It is the responsibility of the wireless device owner/user to configure their wireless device to provide the appropriate security settings to control access from other wireless devices within the Library and from the Internet itself. The Library cannot and will not take responsibility for damages incurred for incorrect, insufficient or incomplete security settings; or lack of adequate or up-to-date virus protection. Wireless users assume all risks in this regard.

Q. Can I search the Library Catalog and online databases using wireless?

A: Yes, absolutely. The Library's website is <http://www.plumblibrary.com> and you may access the Library's catalog or any of our online databases with links from that site. In most cases a library card will not be required for general browsing, just as on the "wired" public stations. A library card will be required for placing holds on items and for renewing checked out items or viewing other personal information.

Q. Anything else I should know?

A: Yes, remember these important suggestions:

- ✓ Please do not leave your laptop unattended. The Library is not responsible for stolen equipment.
- ✓ Please do not extend electrical cables across aisles where they might be a safety hazard.
- ✓ If you plan to use your laptop's audio features, please remember to bring your own headphones as well.

Plumb Memorial Library

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Monday 1-8 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday 10-6 pm, Thursday 1-8 pm, Friday 10-5 pm, & Saturday 10-2 pm