Subject: Small office/home network

Posted by reborn on Tue, 27 Nov 2007 19:48:41 GMT

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I have only ever set up a small LAN at home, I once set up a router for a wireless notebook and a PC for my mum and dad and found wireless to be a really lame connection due to the conditions and environment it was set up in.

I also have a very small LAN at my home between a laptop and PC using a cat5 crossover cable just so I can exchange data between the two computers. This happens to be really slow as the laptop doesn't have a NIC, so I had to use a USB NIC which is slower then anything i've ever witness before, but it works...

Now I want to set up a proper home network.

I have a DSL cable connection of 20mbps through a cable modem. I have one laptop which I want to be on the nework wirelessly. I have my main PC which I want connected to the network, and I have an older PC that has allot of storage space, which would primarily be used to store porn, erm I mean legal movies and music.

The two PC's have 1gig NIC cards, and from experiance I know i'm going to want the PCMCIA card for the laptop to be N class, allowing speeds up to 300mb.

I want the router to also act as a hardware firewall. And I want to be able to set the speed of each port. Meaning that I want to be able to cap the speed of my girlfriends laptop whilst I am downloading my porn. I mean legal movies.

Whilst ATM I want it to support only two PC's and a laptop, I want it to be scalable. So I can add more devices to the network later on. More then likely a networked printer and possibly another PC for media entertainment, I don't suppose any serious gaming console will now come out without the need for a connection either, so I would like it ideally to support up to eight network devices.

Any suggestions and/or forseeable pitfulls would be welcome.