genetix wrote on Sat, 11 October 2008 11:21Be careful. Networking your house is addicting!

During summer break a year ago I got laid off early so my parents bought the wiring so I could network our house(home office).

I ended up running over 600 feet of Cat6e cabling in the house. We've got almost 30 different extreme rated connections through out the house. Less then a month ago now I ran a cable from the basement(full patch panel for all connections) accross to the other end of the basement, outside to the garage, up the garage wall, into the garage attick, through that to the house attick, then through the side of the house into my second floor bedroom.

For Reference:
Cat5 - old standard networking cable.
Cat5e - new standard, slightly faster.
Cat6(e) - Top of the line home networking cable.
Cat7 - Data Center / Industry only. I uses a different connection end. Cat5, 5e and 6 all use RJ45 I believe is the code for the ends.
FiberOptics - Only show great improvements over long distances.

Most datacenters use fiber optics unless the path distance is under 300 feet. When a patch distance is under 300 feet fiber optics is considered to be equal with cat6e.

Now that the dust has settled I have close to $800 in networking cable in my house. Wall plates all over the house and a locked down wireless connection. We have 2 home servers/media centers one in my room and one in the living room. 2 IP addresses a public and a private. Public's for my development server.

I ended up buying everything through a electrician's wholesaler place. 1000 Feet of Cat6e cabling was $200. Crimping tool was $20, Line Test(you have to test ALL custom made lines) $60, Patch cable ends 25 was like $10. The expensive part is the connection ends that plug into the wall plates. Wholesale rate was $8 PER END when I installed everything!

There's a big enough speal for anyone thinking about going this route.
SO I guess its between 6 or cat 7 huh ummmm