

Why Do You Need Burstable Bandwidth?

If you've ever experienced a sudden and unexplained slowdown in Internet speed, it's likely your Internet connection relies on fixed bandwidth. Slow speeds – even if only for a short amount of time – result in a poor user experience that can frustrate employees and potentially drive away customers.

Burstable bandwidth is the solution to your slow Internet problems.



What Is Burstable Bandwidth?

Most businesses don't need to utilize their maximum bandwidth all of the time – but there are periods when a spike in usage requires more bandwidth to maintain fast speed.

Burstability is the ability to utilize higher bandwidth for increased network speeds, allowing you to transfer large files without interruption.

Why Burstable Bandwidth Is Useful

Here's an example:

You come in to work in the morning, grab your coffee, and get ready to attack the day – and your Internet is slow. A new operating system update was just released. Everyone in the office is running it, maxing out limited bandwidth that is not burstable. As a result of the entire staff downloading operating system patches and updates at the same time, the limited Internet pipe is maxed out – and you can't get any work done.

Signing on for a bigger fixed bandwidth plan at a higher cost won't help – because it's still fixed. Just one high traffic period could exceed bandwidth limitations, bringing your network down to unacceptably slow speeds at other hours. With burstable bandwidth, spurts in bandwidth usage such as these don't slow down the network. Bandwidth is there when you need it.

The answer to your bandwidth problems is burstability.

Here's how burstable bandwidth works:



1

You choose a bandwidth base that allows you to handle an average daily traffic load with some wiggle room for higher volume.

This gives you a baseline data transfer rate that you can expect from your network.

2

You'll then set a burstable bandwidth plan that utilizes an open network port to deliver additional bandwidth when you need it.

3

Once your network traffic reaches the baseline bandwidth limit, the burstable bandwidth kicks in to handle high data volume – and your speed doesn't slow down.



Pure Speed Lightwave's 95th Percentile Rule

PS Lightwave uses the 95th percentile rule to bill for bandwidth that exceeds our customers' committed rate. This is how we avoid penalizing customers for the occasional burst of bandwidth.

- The 95th percentile for your inbound traffic and your outbound traffic is displayed on a graph we provide you, along with a correlating time frame.
- Using these graphs, you can see when your data usage spikes above your allotted rate – and monitor your monthly usage.
- During a 30-day month, this equates to 36 hours of exceeding the committed rate without receiving an overage bill.



Why Pure Speed Lightwave?

By not limiting the bandwidth for a service, our customers can enjoy higher bandwidth whenever it's needed. We offer burstable bandwidth and reliable, responsive service.

For customized network solutions to meet your unique needs, **contact PS Lightwave today.**