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# What is Bandwidth, What does Bandwidth mean ?

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## Bandwidth

The term bandwidth can mean slightly **different things**, depending on the **context** in which it is used.

Below you will find explanations as to the meaning of bandwidth in each context.

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### In computing

Bandwidth refers to the capacity of a communications line or channel to transmit or receive information.

Bandwidth in this context is measured in bits, bytes, kilobytes, megabytes and gigabytes.

### Internet Service Providers

Bandwidth (when specified by an ISP) is the **monthly quota of data** that you are allowed to **upload and download** with your internet connection. Your monthly bandwidth allowance will usually be measured in **Megabytes (MB)** or **Gigabytes (GB)**, the amount of bandwidth you need depends on how you intend to use the internet.

For example, if you will be using the internet just to view websites then you will not need as much bandwidth as someone who is downloading music and video for the same amount of hours.

**note:** one Megabyte (MB) = 1,000 Kilobytes (KB).

The **average webpage** is around 50KB (kilobytes) including images

The **average MP3 audio** file is around 4MB (Megabyte)

So you would use the same amount of bandwidth to download one [MP3 audio file](#), as you would to view eighty one webpages (50Kb) on the internet.

As you can see, it depends greatly on what you are using your internet connection for as to how much bandwidth you will need.

## Web Hosting companies

When in the context of web hosting companies it refers to **how much traffic** a web hosting company will allow **each month**. This will affect the amount of traffic you can have to your website in any one month.

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