

Telefonica o2 UK's home broadband offerings under their O2 & Be brands – a colourful comparison

Telefonica o2 UK offer in the UK six differently packaged Local Loop Unbundled (LLU) ADSL broadband subscriptions **on your BT based landline** - under two brandnames: Be Un Limited and o2 Home Broadband.
 This document summarises and compares the o2 Home Broadband packages with those from Be Un Limited for new subscribers. (o2 also offer 'o2 Access' based on a BTwholesale ADSLmax product.)
Always check data is correct & up to date before making your own contract commitments

Eg For low usage/lowest price WITH NIGGLES!

	New subscriptions from 4 Jan 2011	New subscriptions from 4 Jan 2011
Packages:	o2 BASICS	Be VALUE
ADSL Standard:	ADSL2+ Annex A service over Be/o2 LLU network	
Modem synch:	No synch cap: 24Mbps Down 1.3Mbps Up	Synch capped 12Mbps Down 1.3Mbps Up
Usage limits:	LIMITED TO 20GB/month usage	Unlimited usage + Fair Usage Policy
Traffic Managed?	Video & P2P during Peak	None
ADSL type:	Interleaved ADSL2+	
	(FastPath not offered)	
Modem:	Loaned 'g' WiFi/Modem/Router/Switch 'box'	
Contract:	12m+ contracts (or 30day+ option)	12month+ contracts ONLY
Set-up:	If not o2 mobile: £25.53 set-up fee	Free set-up for everyone
	30-day Moneyback	Committed from activation
IP #:	Dynamic IP # (very sticky)	
	£5.11/month for a Static IP #	No Static IP # offer
Support:	24x7 phone support, prob outsourced	24x7 phone support in Bulgaria
Email:	10 eMail accounts	No email offered
Software:	1 McAfee Security Licence	No licences offered
SMS:	100 SMS/month from o2 site	No free SMS offered
Landline phone service:	Optional bolt-on: o2 Home Phone service (requires ongoing o2 Home BB sub)	Optional bolt-on: Be Landline service (requires ongoing Be Broadband sub)
Sub £/m:	Normally £8.17-£13.28/month	Normally £14.08/month
Best non o2 Mobile 1 st Year:	£145.05	£128.56
Cross-loyalty:	o2 Mobile users can save £5.11/m off subscription (and £25.53 setup fee)	No loyalty perks
Best o2 Mobile 1 st year:	£53.33 = 1st year best net-cost	£128.56

(After offers) (3 free months, £20.20 cashback) (£40.40 cashback)

Eg For best typical value

	New subscriptions from 4 Jan 2011	New subscriptions from 4 Jan 2011
	o2 ALL ROUNDER	Be UNLIMITED
ADSL Standard:	ADSL2+ Annex A service over Be/o2 LLU network	
Modem synch:	Modem synch uncapped : Up to 24Mbps Down, 1.3Mbps Up	
Usage limits:	No limit but new FUP 'c 100GB/m'	Unlimited usage + Fair Usage Policy
Traffic Managed?	Video & P2P during Peak	None
ADSL type:	Interleaved ADSL2+ by default	
	FastPath not offered	Optional FastPath/'Gaming' settings
Modem:	Loaned 'n' WiFi/modem etc 'box'	Loaned 'g' WiFi/Modem etc 'box'
Contract:	12m+ contracts (or 30day+ option)	12m+ contracts (or 3m+ option)
Set-up:	If not o2 mobile: £25.53 set-up fee	Free set-up for everyone
	30-day Moneyback	Committed from activation
IP #:	Dynamic IP # (very sticky)	
	£5.11/month for a Static IP #	Optional Free Static IP #
Support:	24x7 phone support, prob outsourced	24x7 phone support in Bulgaria
Email:	10 eMail accounts	No email offered
Software:	3 McAfee Security Licence	No licences offered
SMS:	200 SMS/month from o2 site	No free SMS offered
Landline phone service:	Optional bolt-on: o2 Home Phone service (requires ongoing o2 Home BB sub)	Optional bolt-on: Be Landline service (requires ongoing Be Broadband sub)
Sub £/m:	Normally £12.25-£17.36/month	Normally £18.26/month
Best non o2 Mobile 1 st Year:	£100.97	£178.72
Cross-loyalty:	o2 Mobile users can save £5.11/m off subscription (and £25.53 setup fee)	No loyalty perks
Best o2 Mobile 1 st year:	£29.45 = 1st year best net-cost	£178.72

(3 free months, £80.80 cashback) (£40.40 cashback)

Eg For the enthusiast living CLOSE to their telephone exchange

	New subscriptions from 4 Jan 2011	New subscriptions from 4 Jan 2011
	o2 THE WORKS	Be PRO
ADSL Standard:	ADSL2+ Annex M service over Be/o2 LLU network	
Modem synch:	Modem synch uncapped : Up to 24Mbps Down, 2.5Mbps Up	
Usage limits:	No limit but new FUP 'c 250GB/m'	Unlimited usage + Fair Usage Policy
Traffic Managed?	Video & P2P during Peak	None
ADSL type:	Interleaved ADSL2+ by default	
	FastPath not offered	Optional FastPath/'Gaming' settings
Modem:	Loaned 'n' WiFi/modem etc 'box'	
Contract:	12m+ contracts (or 30day+ option)	12m+ contracts (or 3m+ option)
Set-up:	If not o2 mobile: £25.53 set-up fee	Free set-up for everyone
	30-day Moneyback	Committed from activation
IP #:	Dynamic IP # (very sticky)	
	Optional Free Static IP(s) **8	
Support:	24x7 phone support, prob outsourced	24x7 phone support in Bulgaria
Email:	10 eMail accounts	No email offered
Software:	5 McAfee Security Licence	No licences offered
SMS:	500 SMS/month from o2 site	No free SMS offered
Landline phone service:	Optional bolt-on: o2 Home Phone service (requires ongoing o2 Home BB sub)	Optional bolt-on: Be Landline service (requires ongoing Be Broadband sub)
Sub £/m:	Normally £20.42-£25.53/month	Normally £22.44/month
Best non o2 Mobile 1 st Year:	£174.50	£228.88
Cross-loyalty:	o2 Mobile users can save £5.11/m off subscription (and £25.53 setup fee)	No loyalty perks
Best o2 Mobile 1 st year:	£102.98 = 1st Year best net-cost	£228.88

(3 free months, £80.80 cashback) (£40.40 cashback)

Notes

- *** Based on the past experience of their nearly 3years of operation of o2 Home BB; yet to validated for the new subscriptions, but highly likely to remain so.
- **1 All speeds are UPTO and depend on your phone line length/quality; although o2 advertise as '20Mbps', synch is genuinely uncapped and upto '24Mbps' technical limit for ADSL2+ Annex A/M specification/kit as for Be marketing figures
- **2 o2 Home Phone have added an extra new o2 'Line rental only' sub at £7.50/month, ie with no free call allowance and new MONTHLY contracts (presumably ONLY if you are on MONTHLY broadband contract)
- **3 Getting an o2 PAYG Mobile SIM before signing up, & topping it up every 3 months will save you £70 cash in the first year (9x£5/m discounts +£25 setup fee) & cost no more than £35, £5 to start, then 3 x £10 quarterly top-ups
- **4 New o2 Fair Usage Policy (dated Aug10, refers to 6Sep10+ subscriptions, and earlier o2 Access) – specifies BASICS 20GB hard limit & the 'around' 100/250GB warning levels – online at http://www.o2.co.uk/assets2/pdf/O2_Broadband_Fair_Use_Policy.pdf
 There is to be a new online usage counter in your o2 Broadband online a/c (ie including all those non-PC users: eg Games consoles, Internet streaming radios, Blu-ray BD Live & Freesat iPlayer usage etc etc)
 Be's Fair Usage Policy continues (as does o2's FUP for 'legacy' LLU subscriptions started pre 6Sep10) to state unlimited but not "so excessive that other members are detrimentally affected".
- **5 Usually best to sign-up via an Internet Cashback referral site (eg Quidco & TopCashBack) but may want to wait till sure they reflect o2 BASICS/ALLROUNDER/WORKS packages – probably at £50 level; Be usually £40
- **6 O2 Traffic management of Video & Peer-2-Peer during Peak hours as per official O2 Forum Site Admin posting at <http://forum.o2.co.uk/viewtopic.php?p=309382>
- **7 FastPath/'Gaming' modes should marginally improve good quality phonelines. Can vary 5:Nm target: Be via Control Panel, o2 via Support phoneline.
- **8 o2 TheWorks & Be Pro offer one free Static IP#; Be Pro subscribers can purchase additional Static IP#s for a monthly fee. (Be also plans to offer a 'Bonding' service linking TWO Be Pro subscriptions on TWO BT Phonelines into ONE faster broadband circuit.)