

## **What is a VPN and How Does it Work?**

A VPN is a piece of software that keeps your internet activity private and secure. A VPN can be installed on your computer, laptop, smartphone, tablet, and most popular devices. Once the VPN is running it creates a private and secure internet connection between that device and the website or app you're trying to reach. Rather than travelling in a straight line like your usual internet connection, when you use a VPN your web traffic is first routed to your VPN's private servers, then on to the website or app you want to access. This private connection is like a secret tunnel, hiding your web traffic from snoopers and hackers. Your ISP can no longer see what you're doing, and your connection is far more secure. Your IP address changes and your browsing data can't be linked to your real location, making everything you do online much more private. (Excerpted from <https://www.top10vpn.com/guides/what-is-a-vpn/>)

## **7 Reasons to Use a VPN**

1. Avoid bandwidth throttling
2. Access your favorite websites when abroad
3. Save money on flight tickets, hotels, and car rentals
4. Download and upload files securely
5. Don't worry about public Wi-Fi security
6. Avoid price discrimination when shopping online
7. Keep your conversations secure and private

## **How to Choose the Best VPN Service**

1. Encryption and Secure Protocols - OpenVPN and IKEv2
2. A no-logs policy and preferably based on a privacy-respecting location
3. Global Coverage
4. Cross-Platform Support
5. The number of simultaneous connections supported
6. Speed
7. Easy to set up and use
8. Good customer support
9. Price