

● UK FIBRE GUIDE · JUNE 2026

MYTH BUSTER

Monday, 8 June 2026

Full Fibre Myths *debunked.*

The ten things people still get wrong about full fibre, from what counts as fibre to power cuts and price. Clear, honest answers, with the truth behind each one.

10

MYTHS DEBUNKED

With the real facts

82%

HOMES CAN GET IT

Ofcom, January 2026

2027

COPPER SWITCHES OFF

January, nationwide

Written by **Dr Alex J. Martin-Smith**

Reviewed by **Adrian James**

Next review within 90 days

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SECTION 01 · WHAT IT REALLY IS

Understanding full fibre

Most myths start with a simple mix-up about what full fibre is. Clear these four up and the rest falls into place.

MYTH “Fibre broadband means I already have full fibre.”

Not necessarily. For years, “fibre” was sold for part-fibre lines that run fibre only to a street cabinet, then copper to your home. Only FTTP is full fibre. Since September 2024, providers must label the technology clearly as copper, part fibre, cable or full fibre, and cannot use “fibre” alone, at least at the point of sale.

MYTH “Fibre slows in bad weather or over distance, like copper.”

No. Copper weakens the further you are from the cabinet and can be affected by weather, interference and corrosion. Full fibre carries light down glass, so it barely weakens over distance and shrugs off electrical interference.

MYTH “My Wi-Fi speed is the same as my broadband speed.”

Not quite. Full fibre arrives at a small box on your wall and a new router, but your Wi-Fi can still bottleneck a fast line. Distance from the router and an older Wi-Fi standard can hold back a gigabit connection long before the line does.

MYTH “The speed they advertise is never what you get.”

Misleading. Advertised “average” speeds must be reachable by at least half of customers at peak time, and you also get a personal speed estimate when you order. Crucially, full fibre delivers its advertised speed far more consistently than copper ever did.

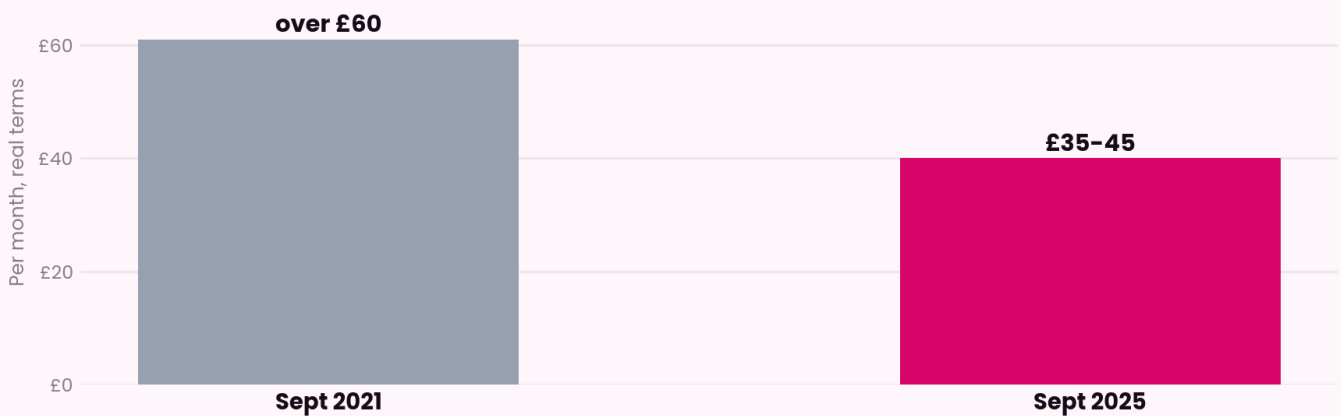
SECTION 02 · COST AND NEED

Is it worth the money?

Two of the most common reasons people hold off are price and the feeling that full fibre is more than they need. Both deserve an honest look.

MYTH “Full fibre is much more expensive.”

Usually not. Ofcom found that in many cases you can switch to faster, more reliable full fibre and pay the same or less than your old copper or part-fibre deal. Gigabit prices have fallen sharply, and entry full fibre often starts in the low £20s a month.



Average real-terms price of gigabit-capable broadband. It has fallen markedly in just four years. Source: Ofcom, 2026.

MYTH “Full fibre is overkill, I do not need it.”

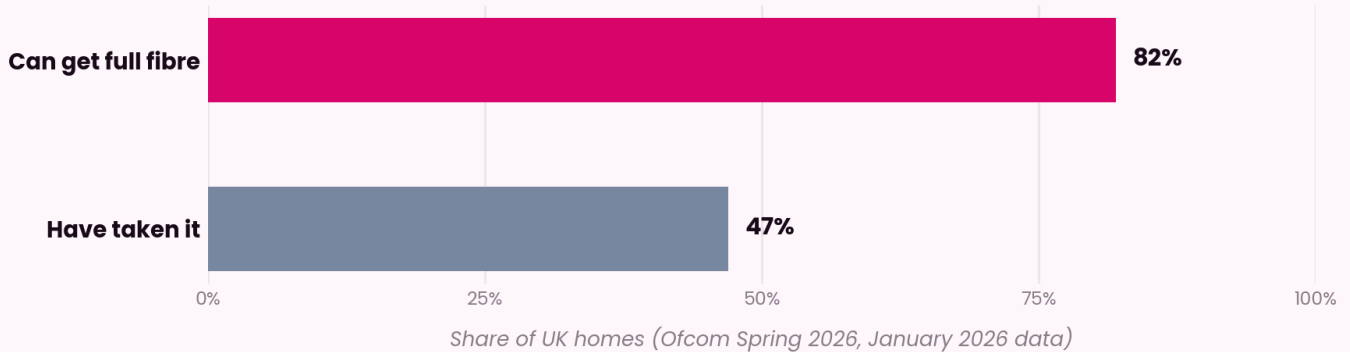
It depends, and that is fair. Many homes genuinely do not need gigabit speeds. But the real gains are stronger upload, steadier connections and room for several people at once, not just a bigger headline number. And with copper retiring, full fibre is fast becoming the standard anyway.

SECTION 03 · GETTING IT

Can you get it, and how?

MYTH “Full fibre is not available where I live.”

Often false. 82% of UK homes can now get full fibre, and the rollout is rapid, so many people who assume they cannot get it actually can. Far more homes can get it than have switched to it, as the figures show.



Full-fibre availability against take-up across UK homes. The gap means most people can switch today. Source: Ofcom Spring 2026.

MYTH “Installation is a nightmare and needs major building work.”

Rarely. A typical full fibre install is a short engineer visit that fits a small box on an inside wall and sets up a new router. Allow a week or two from ordering, and that is usually the whole job.

SECTION 04 · COPPER AND POWER

The copper questions

MYTH “Copper landlines will always be there.”

No longer. The old copper phone network is being switched off, with the national deadline set for 31 January 2027. Where full fibre is widely available, providers already stop selling new copper services, so the move is well under way.

MYTH “I will lose everything in a power cut, so it is dangerous.”

Partly true, and worth knowing. Unlike the old copper phone, full fibre needs mains power at home, so a power cut takes out the phone unless you have a backup. Providers must offer at least one hour of battery backup, free of charge, to customers who rely on their landline, such as vulnerable users, and some offer far more.

• SEE PAST THE MYTHS

Find out what full fibre really costs at your home.

The only way to cut through the myths is to check your own address. See which full fibre deals reach you and what they cost.

[Compare live deals at your postcode →](#)

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SECTION · REFERENCES

References and sources



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Every figure in this guide is backed by a publicly verifiable source, listed in APA 7th edition format. Coverage and pricing figures are Ofcom's, and the advertising rules are the ASA's own published standards.

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REMEMBER

Most full fibre myths come down to old habits and old marketing. The reality is faster, often cheaper and increasingly the only option. Check what reaches you at broadbandswitch.uk/compare.

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