



New Routers Risk 'Turning Into a Pumpkin' Next Year

Description

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has implemented a ban on the sale of new foreign-made routers in the United States. This decision has significant implications, affecting nearly all Wi-Fi routers currently available on the market.

The FCC's order states that routers manufactured outside the US present "unacceptable risks" to national security. As a result, banned routers will stop receiving critical security updates after March 1, 2027. However, this ban does not affect routers already approved by the FCC, meaning existing products can still be sold and restocked.

Experts are concerned that this ban effectively halts the router market while companies seek approval for new models. Notably, many brands, including Netgear, manufacture routers in various countries. The complicated supply chains make it challenging to determine which routers may be considered foreign-made.

Cybersecurity professionals have advised consumers to delay purchasing new routers. Some suggest buying older, budget models instead of seeking the latest options. The current chaos may lead to confusion and uncertainty regarding which routers will remain secure in the future.

The FCC has indicated that manufacturers can continue providing updates until 2027, but this raises concerns about long-term security. Critics argue that restricting access to these updates may worsen security issues rather than alleviate them.

In summary, those in need of new routers should exercise caution for now. More clarity on which routers will be permitted under the ban is expected within the next month or two.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What has the FCC implemented a ban on?

Option: Sale of new foreign-made routers

Option: Sale of all routers

Option: Sale of new American-made routers

Option: Sale of used foreign-made routers



2. What did the FCC state about routers manufactured outside the US?

- Option: They provide better security
- Option: They present unacceptable risks to national security
- Option: They are preferred by consumers
- Option: They are cheaper

3. When will banned routers stop receiving critical security updates?

- Option: December 31, 2025
- Option: March 1, 2027
- Option: January 1, 2026
- Option: February 28, 2028

4. Which of the following brands manufacture routers in various countries?

- Option: Cisco
- Option: Netgear
- Option: TP-Link
- Option: All of the above

5. What have cybersecurity professionals advised consumers to do?

- Option: Wait for new models
- Option: Delay purchasing new routers
- Option: Buy expensive new models
- Option: Switch to wired connections

6. What may worsen security issues according to critics of the ban?

- Option: Offering more updates
- Option: Access restrictions to updates
- Option: Encouraging purchases of newer models
- Option: Using secure connections

True-False

7. The ban on foreign-made routers affects routers that are already approved by the FCC.

8. FCC's order was based on concerns regarding national security.

9. Consumers are advised to purchase the latest router models available.



10. Manufacturers can continue providing updates until 2027 according to the FCC.
11. The FCC's order is expected to provide more clarity within the next month or two.
12. Routers from foreign countries will be able to sell indefinitely, according to the FCC's ban.

Gap-Fill

13. The FCC has implemented a ban on the sale of new foreign-made routers in the _____ .
14. Banned routers will stop receiving critical security updates after _____ .
15. Experts are concerned that this ban effectively halts the _____ market.
16. The complicated supply chains make it challenging to determine which routers may be considered _____ -made.
17. Critics argue that restricting access to updates may worsen _____ issues.
18. Consumers are advised to exercise _____ when seeking new routers.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Sale of new foreign-made routers 2. They present unacceptable risks to national security 3. March 1, 2027 4. All of the above 5. Delay purchasing new routers 6. Access restrictions to updates
True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. True 12. False
Gap-Fill: 13. United States 14. March 1, 2027 15. router 16. foreign 17. security 18. caution

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL5

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4. new router
5. reading comprehension



6. turn into a pumpkin

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