



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.

Vocabulary List:

1. // ():

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

Vocabulary quizzes



Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What are often targeted by cybercriminals to gain unauthorized access?
Option: Networks
Option: Vulnerabilities
Option: Firewalls
Option: Databases
2. What term describes a hopeful attitude towards the future?
Option: Pessimism
Option: Realism
Option: Optimism
Option: Cynicism
3. What does it mean to increase or intensify in severity?
Option: Regulate
Option: Escalate
Option: Diminish
Option: Moderate
4. What financial assistance is often provided by the government to help reduce costs?
Option: Grants
Option: Loans
Option: Subsidies
Option: Investments
5. What term refers to interruptions that can cause confusion or disorder?
Option: Consolidations
Option: Improvements
Option: Disruptions
Option: Stabilizations
6. What term is used to describe strained relations or conflicts between entities?
Option: Relaxations
Option: Tensions
Option: Harmonies
Option: Unities
7. What term is used to describe a sudden increase or rise?
Option: Minimized
Option: Dropped
Option: Surged



Option: Stagnated

8. What is the term for making a process easier or less difficult?

- Option: Obstructed
- Option: Complicated
- Option: Facilitated
- Option: Impeded

9. What term describes a substance that has been made liquid?

- Option: Solidified
- Option: Liquefied
- Option: Frozen
- Option: Gaseous

10. What verb means to counterbalance or compensate for something?

- Option: Increase
- Option: Offset
- Option: Reduce
- Option: Enhance

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Natural disasters can lead to significant disruptions in _____ services.

12. The emergence of new technologies often changes _____ industries.

13. Political tensions can escalate due to _____ actions.

14. After the announcement, the stock prices surged to new _____ highs.

15. Organizations must identify their security vulnerabilities to _____ risks.

16. The report generated a sense of optimism about the _____ economy.

17. The new software facilitated _____ communication between teams.

18. Liquefied natural gas is often transported in _____ tankers.

19. Farmers often rely on government subsidies to _____ agricultural costs.

20. The stock market experienced a correction after a long period of _____ growth.



Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The event was unprecedented in its scale and impact.
22. Hackers often exploit system weaknesses to gain unauthorized access.
23. The situation began to escalate after the controversial decision.
24. The stock market index reflects the performance of various companies.
25. The gains from investments may offset other financial losses.
26. Steps were taken to mitigate the effects of the disaster.
27. A market correction can often lead to new investment opportunities.
28. Sales surged during the holiday season, exceeding all expectations.
29. Heightened tensions amid the negotiations made progress difficult.
30. The military was deployed to assist in the disaster relief efforts.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Vulnerabilities 2. Optimism 3. Escalate 4. Subsidies 5. Disruptions 6. Tensions 7. Surged 8. Facilitated 9. Liquefied 10. Offset

Gap-Fill: 11. essential 12. traditional 13. provocative 14. record 15. mitigate 16. global 17. efficient 18. specialized 19. offset 20. rapid

Matching sentence: 1. unprecedented 2. exploit 3. escalate 4. index 5. offset 6. mitigate 7. correction 8. surged 9. tensions 10. deployed

CATEGORY

- 1. Business - LEVEL5

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