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# GADGETS & TECHNOLOGY CONNECTION CC

## BROADBAND COMPARISON

	Sentech MyWireless	WBS iBurst	Vodacom 3G	Telkom ADSL
<b>Mobility</b>	Wireless connection. Mobility within the coverage area	Wireless connection. Mobility within the coverage area	Wireless connection. Mobility within the coverage area	No Mobility, Fixed line.
<b>Brief description of technology.</b>	Users connect to internet via high sites using a wireless modem or PCMCIA card.	Users connect to internet via high sites using a wireless modem or PCMCIA card.	Users connect to internet via high sites using a PCMCIA card.	Asymmetrical digital subscriber line. Turns a standard telephone line into a multi tasking accessing medium.
<b>Uses</b>	Mobile Laptops, desktops, networked computers etc.	Mobile Laptops, desktops, networked computers etc.	Laptops	Desktops and Networks can use on laptop, but no mobility.
<b>Launch date in SA</b>	Jan-04	April 2005	Jan-05	
<b>Coverage</b>	Large parts of Jhb, Midrand, Pta, Durban and Cape Town. Major expansion of network expected to commence in April 2005.  please refer to:  iBurst Coverage Map	Large parts of JHB, Midrand, PTA, CPT, DBN.  please refer to:  iBurst Coverage Map  Major expansion of network expected towards end of 2005	Very little, are relooking at the coverage and will be updating from April 05. Have tried to focus on the central business areas.  Can go to vodacom.net/3g to find out about coverage in your area	Your telephone exchange must be ADSL enabled.
<b>Speeds</b>	Contended packages of 128 kbps, 256 kbps and 512 kbps. Practically this gives you about around 110, 220 and 420kbps locally and 90, 140 and 250kbps internationally for the 3 packages.	Up to 1Mbps download and 365 kbps upload. Speed depends on signal strength and distance from tower.	Claim Up to 384kbps in 3G coverage areas. Speeds experienced are between 60 kbps-110 kbps.	384 download giving you a 128 kbps upload speed and 512 download giving you an upload of 256 kbps.
<b>Cap</b>	Soft caps of 10, 20 and 40GB per month for the 3 packages. This is on downloaded data only These are SOFT caps, meaning you will not be cut off if you exceed these infrequently.	Packages are 1, 3, 6 and 9GB.  Once exceeded you have to buy more capacity or settle for the 64kbps speed.	1GB. Thereafter data costs R2/MB  There is no rollover of data. Software used to monitor the usage is apparently not very accurate.	2gb for standard users, if you are wanting more then it will cost you R199 for an additional 2gb, and R249 for an additional 3gb.
<b>Subscription periods</b>	Month by month, 12 and 24 month.	Month by month or 24 month.	24 Month contract only	12 month and 24 month contracts.
<b>Bundled modem and airtime cost 24 month contract</b>	128 kbps - R649 pm 256 kbps - R849 pm 512 kbps - R1449 pm  No ISP cost.	1 Gig - R599pm (UTD) 3 Gig - R699 pm (UTD) 6 Gig - R1029 pm (UTD) 9 Gig - R1229 pm (UTD)  No ISP cost.	R599 pm for 1st Gig	ISP costs are extra.
<b>Unbundled modem and Airtime costs</b>	128 kbps - R499 pm  256 kbps - R699 pm 512 kbps - R1349 pm  Modem cost for PCMCIA and USB - R3 500.  No ISP cost.	1 Gig - R469 pm  3 Gig - R599 pm 6 Gig - R899 pm  9 Gig - 1099 pm  USB device: R2 800  PCMCIA: R2 100  No ISP cost	No unbundled version.	R449 for the 128, plus line rental costs  R680 for the 256, plus line rental costs  R48 for each additional micro filter. ISP costs are extra. R999 for an Ethernet modem  R799 for a USB modem  R999 for a Router modem.
<b>Activation Fee</b>	R 500	R114 or R456	No fee	Installation and activation fee of R404.
<b>Antennas</b>	A range of antennas are available R900 to R2400	DIY antenna - R599	3G Antenna to become available soon.	Not applicable.
<b>Installation and activation time</b>	10 minutes for installation and activation. Delivery within 24 hours.	10 minutes for installation and activation. Cash and carry.	If you have signal, you can buy modem from Vodashop and can install yourself. So it all depends on how soon you can get the modem.  Activated within 24 hours.	1 to 2 weeks.
<b>Disadvantages</b>	Sentech network - experienced slow speeds during 2004 resulting in a bad name. High modem cost.	Very poor speeds in poor reception areas.	1 gig cap, next gig expensive. Coverage not so great.	Not a wireless solution.  Requires telephone line.
<b>Advantages</b>	Free email account.  Large caps.  Already have one year of operation and experience.	Free email account with up to 5 aliases.  Can experience throughput speeds above 400 kbps in good reception areas.	If you sign a 24-month contract and the prices come down within that period then they will adjust your subscription down to meet the new price.	Small cap. Requires ISP. Stability of service.  Longest offering in Broad  Band market in SA.

THE INFORMATION LISTED ABOVE HAS BEEN COLLATED FROM VARIOUS WEBSITES AND TABULATED.