



Homework Tips

1. Use a quiet room with an uncluttered desk and a supportive desk chair.
2. Sit up straight in the chair to get your blood flowing evenly and help prevent drowsiness.
3. Start by writing a to-do list of your homework, ordering your tasks from hardest to easiest.
4. Stay off Facebook, Twitter, or anything else that will distract you.
5. Speak aloud as you do your homework. This works to maintain focus and reinforce concepts.

Good luck to all students, parents, and teachers during this school year!

Business Office Closed

Monday, September 3rd - Labor Day

Thursday, November 22nd - Thanksgiving Day

KMTelecom

18 Second Avenue NW
Kasson, MN 55944-1491
634-2511

Local call for KMTelecom customers in
Kasson, Mantorville, Rock Dell and
Dodge Center

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm
For help with service problems during
non-business hours, please call 634-2505.

24/7 Internet Help Desk

Kasson, Mantorville Area 634-2575
Rock Dell Area 634-2575 (FREE call)
Dodge Center Area 633-2575

Exede & WildBlue

Sales/Inquiries 866-677-8677
or 507-634-5692
Technical Support 888-232-3796

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KMTelecom
Where technology comes with a human touch



Buyers Prefer Homes With Fiber-Optic Connections

According to a survey commissioned by the Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) Council, very high speed Internet service via fiber is considered the most important amenity for a future home purchase, among homebuyers.

The national survey by RVA LLC Market Research and Consulting shows that 82 percent of those buyers who have had broadband service over FTTH rank it as the leading amenity in a future home, and nearly 70 percent of those who hadn't had FTTH say it's the amenity they want most in a future home.

Other amenities against which fiber-optic connections were compared included green space or walking, jogging, biking trails; community parks and pools; 24-hour neighborhood patrols; and fitness centers/clubhouses. The only thing that came close to very high speed Internet access from a direct fiber line was green space/walking or jogging trails, with scores of 62 percent among current FTTH users and 65 percent among non-FTTH users.

These survey results send a clear message to the real estate market: If a home for sale has a fiber-optic connection available, you should clearly advertise that fact. Fiber is a sought-after feature among today's homebuyers, and not every home can offer this valuable amenity.

Keep in mind that fiber-optic connections — unlike adding a pool or a deck — are an amenity that homeowners usually can't choose to get on their own. Most often, the communications provider in a community has to decide to invest in a fiber-optic network and bring that network to particular neighborhoods or streets.

KMTelecom is proud to bring FTTH to our service areas. Not only does our fiber-optic network enhance the performance of Internet and other services, it also enhances the value of homes. Put simply, having FTTH-based service available to your home could help it sell more quickly, and for a higher price, than it would otherwise.

Fall Equinox May Affect TV

If your TV picture momentarily turns snowy or blurry on September 22, the date of the fall equinox, it's probably from a sun outage. This is a natural phenomenon which occurs twice a year (in the spring and fall), when the sun appears to pass directly behind the satellite, as seen from the receive antenna.

During these brief "eclipse" periods—when the receive antenna on the earth, the satellite, and the sun are in direct alignment—the sun's focused "noise" energy overwhelms the video signal from the satellite. Reception becomes degraded and eventually impossible for a brief period of time, usually less than 15 minutes. All communications providers using satellites experience this effect.

There is nothing that can be done from a technical standpoint to prevent the sun outage effects. Fortunately, however, sun outages are a short-term problem and end when the equinox is over. Please contact us if you have any questions.



Making Social Media Safer for Kids

Today's children are growing up with social media, which can be both positive and negative. Social media for kids, as for adults, is a means for connecting with others, self-expression, game playing, and exploring new interests. But for kids, it can also be a source of bullying, ill-intentioned adults, and inappropriate information.

While a number of kid-specific social media sites exist—such as giantello.com, scuttlepad.com, and yoursphere.com—many children access applications meant for adults, with or without parental permission. Facebook is meant for those 13 and older, but some very young children still have Facebook profiles.

Boundaries and Rules

The key to ensuring appropriate use of social media for kids is educating them about what it means to be a good digital citizen. Yet many schools have yet to implement such training, and some parents aren't able to provide guidance because they're still trying to figure out the digital world themselves.

In order to stay safe with social media, kids need to understand the basics of privacy, boundaries, appropriate sites and interactions, and how much time to spend online. In other words, kids need to be given rules such as, "Never agree to meet someone in person who you've only communicated with online," "Never swear online," or "Spend no more than one hour per day online." Rules usually go over better if kids are given the chance to help set them.

Parental Participation

Another factor in keeping kids safe with social media is your own participation. You can set a good example by limiting your time on social media sites. You can also help keep your kids safe by limiting the visibility of photos of them to people you know well and trust. You can monitor your kids' social media interactions by friending them on social media sites, checking their profiles, and reviewing their friend lists.

For more social media safety tips, visit websites such as:

safekids.com

staysafeonline.org

microsoft.com/security/family-safety/kids-social.aspx



Respect Copyrighted Materials

You have many choices when it comes to viewing movies and TV shows online. With so many options out there, getting the real thing can often be confusing. If you get in a situation where you are downloading pirated content from the Internet, you may be caught and it could cost you. Copyright piracy is illegal. It's as simple as that.

Here are a few tips that might help you sort through the clutter:

Watch for titles that are "too new to be true"

Movies that have yet to be released in theaters, or which are still out in theaters, are not legally available online. If very recent titles are being sold or traded online, they are almost invariably illegal copies.

Trust your eyes and ears

In many cases, the quality of illegal copies is inferior with poor sound and can appear blurry or shaky.

Be cautious when websites make offers that are "too good to be true"

Be wary of "free" content when searching for and purchasing downloads from unfamiliar sites; they typically indicate pirated product. Look-out for terms like "Unlimited Movie Downloads," "100% legal," and "Millions of Files Shared." Offers for one-time or yearly fees with no details and no contact information should also alert you that you have entered an illegal site.

Stay out of legal trouble with copyrighted materials. Go to this website for further details: www.respectcopyrights.org



MN Telecom Alliance Scholarship Winner!

Marissa Rae Dufault

KMTelecom is a member of the Minnesota Telecom Alliance Association. As a member, students in the area serviced by KMTelecom are eligible to apply for a scholarship from the MN Telecom Alliance Foundation. Marissa Rae Dufault was selected to receive a \$2,000 scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic school year.

The Foundation congratulates Marissa on her high school accomplishments and wishes her further success as she begins her post-high school education.

KMTelecom Offers Exede Satellite Broadband Technology

KMTelecom is offering "Exede by ViaSat." Exede is a new satellite broadband technology that began transmitting earlier this year at speeds up to 12 Mbps download and 5 Mbps upload.

Some rural telcos, working with the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative (NRTC), pioneered satellite Internet through a service called WildBlue starting in 2005. Many of our customers have used WildBlue and some of you are still using it today.

Now rural telcos and NRTC are back with Exede, and it goes well beyond the earlier services—up to 25 times faster in some cases. With this level of speeds, a rural family can send and receive emails in no time, even those

with large attachment files such as photos and video clips. Enter a URL and the website appears instantly. Download high-fidelity music or a video from YouTube in seconds.

KMTelecom offers the new Exede product in rural areas within a 60-mile radius of Kasson. Tell your friends and family about it. It will "exceed their expectations" of satellite Internet. Call 866-677-8677 today to sign up!



\$25

Win a \$25
Credit on Your
KMTelecom Bill

Fill out this form, clip it, and return it with your next bill for a chance to win a \$25 credit to your account. Return it by September 30, 2012, to be eligible. One winner per newsletter will be selected.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Congratulations to our June 2012 winner, Walt and Julie Borland, Kasson, MN!

Just Forget It!

Remember how many things we used to have to remember? That list is getting noticeably shorter, thanks to technology that will remember things for us. Here are a few memorable examples:

Spelling

The first computer spell-check programs emerged in the late '70s and early '80s, and it's difficult to imagine a world without them. Then came the auto-correct feature on smartphones. Between the two, it's a little less vital to always remember correct spellings.

Dates/Birthdays

Keeping track of special occasions used to involve committing them to memory and/or the conscious act of writing them down in your calendar. Now all you have to do is sign on to Facebook.

Phone Numbers

Ask yourself this: If you lost your wireless phone, how many phone numbers could you remember off the top of your head?

Directions

In 1993, the first global positioning systems were made available and now they're a standard feature in many vehicles. That's not to mention navigational tools like Google Maps and MapQuest. So you really don't have to remember which way to turn anymore.

But please remember this: You can always count on KMTelecom for reliable and affordable communications services. And we never forget the value of our customers.



Congratulations Scholarship Winners!

KMTelecom is pleased to announce the 2012 scholarship recipients. KMTelecom has been a supporter of continuing education for many years through its contribution to the scholarship funds at the Kasson-Mantorville and Triton Schools. This year, \$11,000 in awards will be split between the following 2012 graduates. Congratulations!



Stacey Braaten (K-M) - Stacey is the daughter of Adam and Nong Yowe Braaten. In the fall, she plans to attend University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and pursue a major in Child Psychology/Pre-Med.



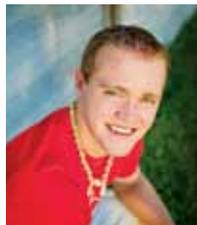
Hannah Buchl (K-M) - In the fall, Hannah plans to attend Carleton College, majoring in Psychology. She is the daughter of Linda and John Buchl.



Jackson Fate (Triton) - He is the son of Glen Fate and Kay Fate. In the fall, Jackson plans to attend University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and major in Political Science.



Michaelene Karlen (K-M) - Michaelene plans to attend Fordham University in New York and pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. She is the daughter of Mike Karlen and Michelle Karlen.



Zachary Plein (K-M) - Zac is the son of Ed and Janet Plein. He plans to attend University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in the fall and pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and Spanish.



Griffin Reed (K-M) - Griffin plans to attend Gustavus-Adolphus College this fall pursuing a major in Biology. Griffin is the son of Don and Gay Reed.