

Sound familiar?

There may be lots of reasons that you haven't got online yet but there are many *more* reasons to give it a go. Getting online simply means that you are using the internet and there are a million reasons for doing that.

This leaflet is all about showing you how you can get online and what difference it can make to your life. It needn't be expensive, complicated or difficult and you'd be amazed what a difference it could make to you.

Everyone can learn, no matter what your background, age or experience.

You just need to be prepared to give it a try!



and how they could benefit you!

4 Stay Up-to-Date

The internet can be an instant source of news and information. Find the latest TV listings, weather reports, and sports results from all over the world.

5 Find Jobs

90% of all new jobs now require IT skills, and many are now advertised and applied for online. If you have computer skills you're more likely to find a job, and you could earn up to 10% more too!

6 Enjoy Hobbies and Interests

Whatever you're interested in, there's a website out there for you.



Don't lose your TV channels.

If you're 75 and over or eligible disabled you can get help switching to digital TV.

The switch to digital TV is coming so you need to get ready. The Switchover Help Scheme can arrange for an approved installer to supply and install everything you need to switch your TV to digital.

Everyone who is entitled to help will receive an information pack from the Help Scheme.

If you'd like more information, please call us free on 0800 40 85 900 or visit helpscheme.co.uk.



The Switchover Help Scheme is run by the BBC.



Need help in your own language?

Cantonese

需要母語幫助

Lithuanian

Reikia pagalbos gimtąja kalba?

Czech

Potřebujete pomoc ve svém jazyce?

French

« Vous avez besoin d'aide dans votre propre langue »

Kurdish

ئایا پێویستت بە یارمەتی بە زمانی خۆت ھەیە.

Portuguese

Precisa de assistência na sua própria língua?

Bengali

আপনার নিজের ভাষায় সহায়তা প্রয়োজন

Turkish

Kendi dilinizde yardıma mı ihtiyacınız var?

Albanian

Keni nevojë për ndihmë në gjuhën tuaj

Spanish

¿Necesita ayuda en su propio idioma?

Farsi

آیا به زبان خودتان به کمک نیاز دارید؟

Urdu

اپنی زبان میں مدد کی ضرورت ہے۔

Polish

Wymagają Państwo pomocy w swoim języku?

Somali

“Ma’u baahantahay in lagugu caawiyo luuqadaadda”

Russian

Требуется ли Вам помощь на Вашем языке?

Arabic

"هل تحتاج إلى مساعدة بلغتك"

☎ 024 7676 7000

For contact details please visit our association websites:
www.hardenhousing.co.uk www.kemblehousing.co.uk
www.nexushousing.co.uk www.whitefriarshousing.co.uk

Discover a brand new world...



...and be part of IT



Whatever your reason... you can still be part of IT

“Not really bothered!
Nothing about the web
interests me.
Never needed to
bother with the
internet so far and I
can't see any reason to
bother with it now”



Not True...

The world is changing and it isn't about to slow down any time soon. You may not think that the internet is of anything to interest you but that is like saying there is nothing to interest you in the whole world! Anything you can think of, any interest, hobby, sport or pastime is represented on the web.

Also many jobs, business and services are making it easier to communicate with them through the web than any other method. Not being online means you could soon be missing out on a world of opportunities and making your life harder than it really needs to be.



“I'm Interested but
I don't have a
computer and even
if I did I couldn't
afford to use the
internet, it's just
way too expensive
for me”

Not True...

Just because you don't own a computer yourself, doesn't mean you can't get online. Free access to the internet is widely available through public Libraries (see next page), UK Online Centres (See below) and Community Centres in your area.

It's bound to be available not far from where you live. Read on to find out more. If you do want to access the internet at home, there are a number of ways that you can get online that aren't too expensive. See the panel below for more details.

“It looks interesting
to me but frankly
I wouldn't know
where to start.
I'd be afraid of just
touching a computer
in case I broke it”



Not True...

Getting online does not have to be complicated or difficult. WM Housing is happy to be supporting the work of UK Online Centres (see opposite).

This government backed project provides free, easy to follow training, delivered in your area, (often at your local library), aimed at all levels of skill and confidence.

With helps from UK Online Centres, you could be sending emails, shopping online or even on Facebook in no time at all. Keep reading for more information.

Just 6 of the reasons to get online...

1 Save Money
You could save an estimated £560 a year by paying bills and shopping online.

2 Save Time
Many tasks are quicker and easier online - getting a tax disc, online banking, paying bills, and getting the groceries!

3 Stay in Touch
The internet provides free and easy ways to keep in touch with friends and family - no matter how far away they are.

A Computer that won't cost the Earth

If the cost of a new computer seems a bit of your price bracket, don't despair. There are a number of charitable organisations and social enterprises that can offer refurbished systems from under a £100, perfect to get you started and set up online.



For more information try contacting one of the organisation below to see what they have available.

ReCOM Tel: 0121 765 5282 www.recom.org.uk

GreenGeek Tel: 0121 288 0926
www.greengeekteam.webs.com

UK **onlinecentres**TM
try a **free & easy** course!

WM Housing are happy to support the work of UK Online Centres. They are a government supported project that provides people with free access to computers and the internet, as well as the help and support they need to use them. These are often delivered at local libraries, as well as other locations all over the country.

Whether you're a beginner or you know a little bit and would like to learn more, the friendly staff will give you the help and support you'll need to get started.

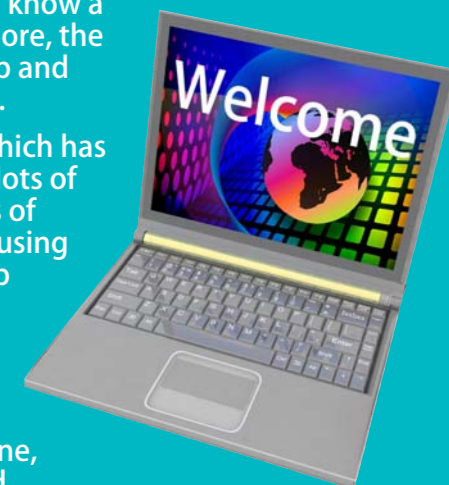
myguide is a web based course which has free and easy-to-use modules on lots of different subjects, from the basics of getting started on a computer to using email, understanding how to shop online and much more!

Online basics is a great package of courses especially designed to give you all the skills and confidence you'll need to get online, from using a mouse and keyboard through to sending your first email.

The Online jobs and Online services packages will teach you some great online skills that will really benefit you in finding a job or saving time, money and hassle online.

There are also lots more useful and interesting courses in the Using and Understanding levels for you to try.

For more information Call Numidia Academy on 024 7663 2942 or contact your local Library.



Libraries Are Great - Shocker!

First things first - it's not just books! Okay, so there are lots of books, as well as CDs, DVDs and talking books too, but that's just the start.

Today's libraries are a gold mine of useful help and information. As well as community and educational information, libraries offer **free access to computers, the internet and related courses.**

Anyone can use a computer in the library, but it is advisable to book in advance.

Also, some of the online services available, such as the Oxford Reference Online Portal and Newsbank, which normally cost you to use at home, are free to library users.

The staff at the library will be happy to help you with getting started and can advise you on courses available.

Go on call in at your local library, you might be surprised!

