VECTOR SECURITY®   Tech Paper

DOES MY ALARM SYSTEM USE Wi-Fi?

Your alarm system may or may not be using Wi-Fi to communicate with our monitoring center. It really depends on what wireless communication technology it is using. If your security system uses a wireless Internet connection to communicate with our monitoring center, then yes, it is using Wi-Fi. This is also known as "Internet monitoring."

Please be aware that "wireless" communication doesn't necessarily mean that Wi-Fi is being used. Wireless alarms can also use cellular signals to communicate with our monitoring center. This type of communication is also known as "cellular monitoring."

About Internet-Monitored Alarm Systems

As the demand for wireless security solutions continues to grow, many consumers are opting for Wi-Fi, or Internet-monitored, alarm systems. Unlike hardwire monitoring, which communicates your alarm signal to the monitoring center via a traditional phone line, or cellular monitoring, which uses wireless cellular communication technology, IP monitored alarms use your Internet connection to transmit alarm events.While this may be a convenient wireless solution, Vector Security experts recommend that you not rely solely on IP monitoring because its reliability depends on your Internet Service Provider (think about how many times you lose Internet connectivity or experience slow download speeds). In addition, if there were a power outage, your Internet would be down, thereby eliminating that communication method for alarms.

If you do choose IP monitoring, we recommend boosting its reliability by using it in conjunction with another communication method, like cellular monitoring or traditional phone line monitoring.