

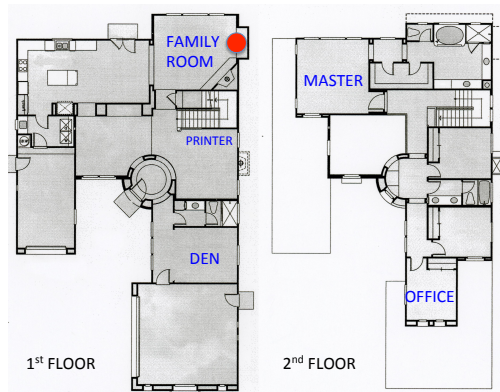
# Networking 101 & Mesh Networks

11/18/2020

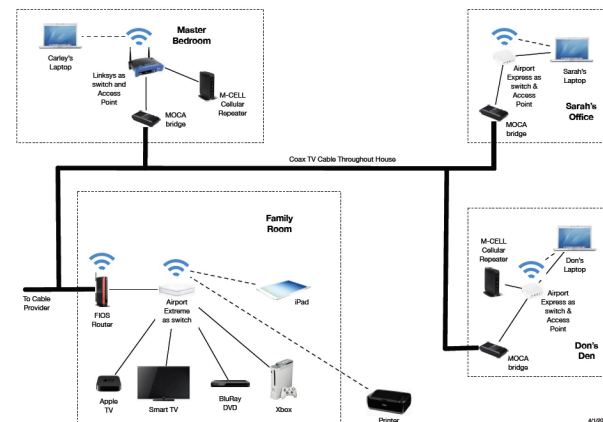
## Simple Home Network



## Don's House



## Ridiculously Complex Network



## Things to Consider

- Routers to wear out eventually
- Newer routers are faster and have more range
- WIFI 6 latest standard
  - Not many devices use it yet
  - But position for the future
- Wireless Repeaters (Extenders)
  - Quick and easy, less expensive (~\$40)
  - No daisy chaining, different network name
  - Halves WIFI speed

## Mesh Home Network



## Mesh Networking

- Cons:
  - Wireless interference?
  - Not ideal for gaming
  - Wired-only devices (workarounds)
- Pros:
  - Easier to set up and manage
  - Much faster now
  - Easy to expand
  - More affordable

## Things To Look For

- Price (per included router) \$150 - \$375
- Speed, Latency, Bandwidth
- Easy to set up?
- Wired network ports
- WIFI 6
- Automatically installs updates itself
- High-end capabilities for techies
- Smart Home capability

## Comparisons & Reviews

<https://www.androidcentral.com/router-vs-mesh-networking-whats-best-your-home-wifi-network>  
Mesh vs routers?

<https://www.tomsguide.com/us/best-mesh-router-review-5191.html>  
Tom's Guide – Likes Google Nest

<https://www.cnet.com/news/the-best-mesh-wi-fi-routers-of-2020-asus-netgear-orbi-eero-google-nest/>  
CNET – Likes Google Nest

<https://www.pcmag.com/picks/the-best-wi-fi-mesh-network-systems>  
PC Magazine – Likes TP-Link Deco

<https://www.techradar.com/news/best-wireless-mesh-routers>  
TechRadar – Likes ASUS ZenWiFi AX

<https://www.ign.com/articles/the-best-mesh-wi-fi-systems-2019>  
IGN – Likes Eero Pro 6

<https://www.consumerreports.org/wireless-routers/best-mesh-wifi-router-systems-for-350-dollars-or-less/>  
Consumer Reports - under \$350: TP-Link Deco, Eero Home WiFi, Netgear Orbi (no #1 choice)