

Did your fiber optic router get struck by lightning

Article Overview

Fiber optic cables themselves are immune to lightning, but your router and other connected electronics can still be damaged by power surges.

Fiber Optic Cable Immunity

Fiber optic cables transmit data using light through glass or plastic, which are non-conductive materials. This means lightning cannot travel along the fiber itself, making the cable immune to direct lightning strikes or nearby electrical surges . Unlike copper-based connections, there is no metallic path for electricity to reach your home network through the fiber.

Vulnerable Components

While the fiber cable is safe, the electronic devices connected to it, such as the Optical Network Terminal (ONT) and your router, are still susceptible to surges from lightning or power grid fluctuations . Lightning can induce a massive transient overvoltage in your home's electrical system, potentially damaging sensitive circuitry in these devices. Signs of damage include:

- Router or ONT not powering on
- Burnt plastic smell
- Burn marks or melted components
- Loss of internet connectivity...

Article Content

Dec 06, 2025

This is why you always disconnect your tech gear before lightning ...

This immediately confirmed my suspicion. What had happened was the lightning that fried our main router, also managed to fry parts

Jan 08, 2026

Did lightning just kill my Router? : r/techsupport

yesterday lightning struck very close to our house and after that the internet went out. Today a technician came by and told me the

Jul 23, 2026

My arris router went out after a thunder storm that struck ...

My arris router went out after a thunder storm that struck close to me I have a similar router to this one but it's small

Nov 20, 2025

Question

Hello, just the other day I had a horrible lightning storm with really bad take out electric grid type of lightning. Ever since

Nov 20, 2025

Router ports getting destroyed in thunderstorms : r/techsupport

So I've only lived in this house for about 5 years, but every summer I've had a modem or router get destroyed when there is a big

Jul 16, 2026

Lightning strike 15 feet from my home fried my router. How?

It affected all electronic devices in the area struck. Your devices with microprocessors are more susceptible to lower levels of ESD

Dec 04, 2025

Can Fibre router get struck by lightning? - Profound-tips

Can Fibre router get struck by lightning? Although the signals in fiber cables are optical signals, most of the outdoor optical cables

Jun 20, 2026

Lightning strike enters apartment through coaxial internet cable, blows ...

Internet cabling turns into a conduit. A lightning strike has reportedly turned an internet connection into a destructive

Apr 20, 2026

How to Fix a Router After a Lightning Strike

A comprehensive guide to safely managing electrical strike damage to your router, determining replacement, and

Mar 17, 2026

When Lightning Strikes. What works and doesn't work.

Living in Florida, afternoon thunderstorms are a regular occurrence with Florida having the highest lightning density of

Apr 07, 2026

Can lightning fry your wifi router?

Can Lightning Fry Your Wi-Fi Router? When thunderstorms approach, it's common to take precautions to ensure our

Sep 21, 2025

Effective Solutions to Repair a Router Damaged by Lightning

Lightning strikes can cause router damage and disrupt your network connectivity. Learn the steps to isolate and

Jul 13, 2026

Lightning struck a powerline, the surge fried my modem and router but ...

Lightning struck outside and now my modem and router are fried. Luckily my PC did the anti-surge shutdown via my Mobo and it's

Oct 11, 2025

Can a PC be damaged over LAN cable when thunder strikes router?

If your router were directly struck by lightning it would pass on that electrical energy through any conductor it finds, and lan cables are

Sep 30, 2025

Does an internet installation with a FiOS cable protect my system from ...

FiOS cables have fiber optics, but there may still be wires connecting your house.

Aug 12, 2025

Q& A: Lightning destroyed my cable modem. Should I replace my

To answer your question, there's a good chance that your router will work just fine once the new cable modem is

May 07, 2026

Wi-Fi router repair after lightning strike

In this video I've repaired a cheap Wi-Fi router that got struck by lightning. Probably, the

Jul 01, 2026

Ensuring Safety and Reliability: Fiber Optic Cable Lightning Protection

This article explores the importance of lightning protection for fiber optic cables, the potential risks lightning poses, and

Dec 20, 2025

Does an Internet Signal Attract Lightning?

Home internet – In the case of the standard broadband/fibre internet we get in our homes that's broadcast

Apr 09, 2026

Video When Lightning Zapped My Internet Modem & Router

And it does KA-BOOM!! Here it is for your viewing and listening pleasure. I call it, "router lightning" Lightning

Sep 26, 2025

Can lightning fry your wifi router?

Lightning strikes can potentially damage or destroy your Wi-Fi router, especially if it's not properly protected. The

Jun 16, 2026

Lightning struck my internet antenna outside traveled ...

Lightning connected to earth destructively via a modem and router. An electrical conductor. But not conductive enough. So a modem

Sep 18, 2025

Lightning damage to Ethernet connection

Lightning struck a tree that is a few feet from my house. Afterward, my computer couldn't connect to the internet. The

Feb 10, 2026

Prevent the Damage caused by Lightning in Fiber Optic Cabling

Fiber optic cables have good protection performance, and the metal components of cable's insulation value is so high that lightning

Jun 05, 2026

Why Fiber Optic Cables Are Immune to Lightning Strikes

Fiber optic cables use glass instead of copper, making them completely immune to lightning-induced surges.

Jun 07, 2026

Cable modem ethernet not working after lightning strike

Yeah I had lightning strike the neighbor's house a couple doors down and even tho my only connection coming into the house from

Sep 08, 2025

Does an Internet Signal Attract Lightning?

Both these networks do not attract lightning and are not affected by lightning, except for when your internet lines are going through

Dec 14, 2025

Fiber Optic Thunder/Lightning. | MyBroadband Forum

Hey guys I got fiber optic cables a couple of weeks ago. The guy who put it up for me said I must turn it off if there is

Oct 05, 2025

networking

One of my client's sites received a direct lightning hit last week (coincidentally on Friday the 13th!). I was remote to the site, but

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