Backup Power Solutions for Regional & Rural Connectivity

Description

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Power outages can happen unexpectedly, but that doesnâ??t mean you have to go offline. Having a backup power source can help you stay connected, protect your equipment, and maintain critical services. Hereâ??s why itâ??s worth considering:

1. **Stay operational** â?? Keep EFTPOS machines, computers and essential services running.
2. **Protect your tech** â?? Prevent damage from surges and safely shut down or save work.
3. **Stay connected** â?? Keep your modem and internet active for Wi-Fi calling and online access.
4. **Support vital devices** â?? Power medical or other critical equipment when the main power is out.

This page is a guide to the different types of alternative power supplies available. To identify the right fit for your needs, you may want to talk to an IT specialist or your RSP. You can also take this information with you with our fact sheet.

Example of a UPS.

What to consider when choosing backup power

There is no one-size-fits-all solution to staying powered during an outage. Thereâ??s no one-size-fits-all solution for staying powered during an outage. Your ideal setup depends on your needs, connection type, and budget. Here are some key things to consider:

1. **Essential equipment** â?? List the devices you must keep running, such as modems, routers, medical devices, or payment systems.
2. **Your current setup** â?? Consider what kind of internet and phone connection you use and what power it requires.
3. **Outage duration** â?? Decide how long you need backup power to last. Is it just long enough to shut down safely, or do you need extended operation for medical needs or business continuity?
4. **Budget** â?? Factor in both the upfront cost and any ongoing expenses like battery replacement or maintenance.

Alternative power supply solutions

There are several backup power options available, each suited to different needs, budgets and environments. Hereâ??s a rundown of the main types:

Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)

An Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) is a device that provides backup power when your primary electricity source fails. Itâ??s like having a small battery that kicks in when the power goes out, ensuring that your devices, such as computers and internet routers, continue to run without interruption. They are best suited for short-term use, protecting equipment from damage and ensuring documents can be saved.

Types of UPS

- **Standby UPS:** Basic protection, suitable for home use and small offices. They are ideal for small equipment, such as computers and routers.
- **Line-Interactive UPS:** Better for areas with frequent power fluctuations as they offer better protection and voltage regulation.
- **Online UPS:** Provides the highest level of protection with continuous power, ideal for critical equipment.

Generators

Generators can provide a power supply for longer outages. They can supply to a larger area, for example, to your entire home, but require regular maintenance and fuel storage.

Types of generators

- Portable generators: Small, movable units, ideal for temporary use.
- Standby generators: Fixed units that can be activated during a prolonged outage.

Solar power systems with battery storage

Solar systems with battery storage offer a renewable, long-term power backup. While more costly to install, they reduce reliance on grid electricity and running costs over time. They are especially effective in sunny areas.

Types of solar setups

- Grid-tied systems with battery backup: Connected to the power grid but with batteries to store excess power for use during outages.
- Off-grid systems: Completely independent of the power grid, ideal for remote locations.

Portable power stations

A portable power station is a compact, rechargeable device designed to store and supply electrical power for use when youâ??re away from traditional power sources. Think of it as a large, high-capacity power bank that can charge or run a wide variety of devices and appliances.

Portable power stations are used to:

- Charge devices like phones, tablets, and laptops.
- Power small appliances such as fans, mini-fridges, CPAP machines, lights, and even TVs.
- Provide backup power during emergencies or blackouts.
- Most models include AC, DC, and USB ports, and can be recharged via a wall socket, car charger, or solar panels (if supported).
- Why choose one?
  Theyâ??re clean, quiet, safe for indoor use, and easy to transportâ??great for short-term backup or portable power needs.

Final tips

Not sure which option is right for you? Start by listing the equipment you need to keep running and how long you need it powered. Consider speaking with your RSP or a tech advisor to match a backup solution with your connectivity setup and budget.

Couldnâ??t find what you were after? Give us a call!

Chat to us on our hotline with one of our team members and letâ??s get the conversation started. If we donâ??t answer, weâ??ll get back to you in no time at all.

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