

TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

You will need to have a telephone number in France for administrative tasks related to your installation in France (bank account, accommodation). We advise you to prepare ahead and initiate this process as soon as possible.

SETTING UP YOUR CELL PHONE LINE

Telecommunications operators offer various packages at different rates. Standard offers generally range from 15€ to 40€ per month, low costs plan cost for around 3€ and 12€.

STANDARD PLAN

[Orange](#)

[SFR](#)

[Bouygues Telecom](#)

LOW-COST PLAN

[Sosh](#)

[RED by SFR](#)

[B&YOU](#)

[Free Mobile](#)

Some operators provide offers called “forfaits sans engagements” where you have the possibility to end your provider contract whenever you want (aka non-binding postpaid plans). They are the best option if you are looking for low rates and flexibility. With these plans, you usually need to already have a phone that you can use in France (suppliers offer only SIM cards, not phones), and mobile subscriptions and customer service are online based.

Most providers offer two types of plans:

- a basic plan with limited calling time/texts/data.
- a complete plan that includes unlimited phone calls, unlimited text messages, international calls, and Internet.

Usual plans with a contract commit you to the provider for a determined period (12 to 24 months).

OUR TIPS

Choose the plan accordingly to the duration of your stay in France. Contract less postpaid plans are better for people staying in France for a relatively short period of time.

SETTING UP YOUR INTERNET

For new arrivals, it's also a good idea to think about your other connections, such as home internet and TV, to see if you can save by combining the contracts (SFR, Free, Bouygues Telecom, Orange, etc.).

The average rate is between 20€ and 50€ per month. Setting up an ADSL or optical fiber connection in your accommodation can take an average of 8 to 21 days.

SETTING UP YOUR FIXED LINE

Telecommunication providers usually charge around 50€ for line activation (the account activation process can take between 48 hours to 8 days).



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GENERAL INFORMATION

French telephone numbers consist of 10 digits.

For fixed lines, the first two fixed are: 01 for Paris, 02 for Northwest, 03 for Northeast, 04 for Southeast, and 05 for Southwest. Mobile numbers start with 06 and 07.

Calling internationally, you must dial 00 and the corresponding country code. France's country code is +33. If you want to call France from abroad, you must dial 00 33, then the French number without its leading 0.