

Consider call override services

Sign up online to a call override service to cut call costs. Line rental is with another supplier, just dial a prefix before each number you call to pay reduced rates on a pay-per-call basis.

Say no to 0870 and 0845

It can be expensive calling certain numbers such as those starting with 087 and 084. For tips on cheap alternatives to these numbers go to www.which.co.uk/cheapercalls

Online billing savings

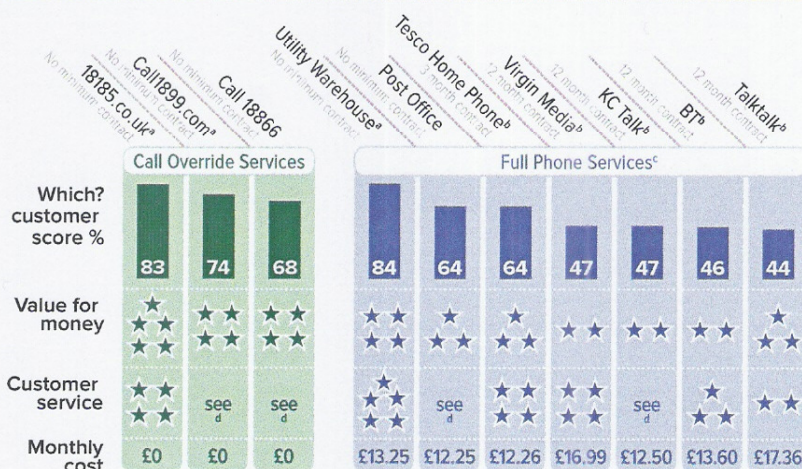
You can usually save money by opting for online billing. Our lowest monthly costs in our table below don't include savings with online billing.

HOME PHONE SERVICES

If you've chosen an easy to use phone, use it with an equally good service provider. In our November 2010 survey, Utility Warehouse, 18185.co.uk and Call1899.com had the best customer scores (their customers' overall satisfaction and willingness to recommend the provider to a friend) and are Which? Recommended home phone providers.

With full phone services, you pay for line rental and calls each month. Many offer inclusive calls at certain times of the day. Those with no minimum contract term (see right) may require 30 days notice to cancel.

With call override services, line rental is with another supplier. You dial a prefix before each call made and are billed on a per call basis. There's no fixed monthly cost.



a Recommended home phone provider b Online billing cheaper c Cost shown for provider's cheapest standalone home phone deal including line rental. Assumes direct debit and paper billing d Too few survey responses to rate

RANK	PHONE	SPECIFICATION	WHICH? TEST PERFORMANCE											SCORE (%)		
			SINGLE HANDSET PRICE (€)	TWIN HANDSET	TRIPLE HANDSET	QUAD HANDSET	COPY NUMBERS BETWEEN HANDSETS	INCOMING CALL BARRING	BATTERY LIFE	PHONE RANGE	PHONE EARPIECE SOUND QUALITY	SOUND QUALITY	LOUDSPEAKER QUALITY		MACHINE SOUND QUALITY	ANSWERING MACHINE SOUND QUALITY
1	SIEMENS Gigaset A585	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★★	★★★★	★★★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	73
2	SIEMENS Gigaset AL285	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★★	★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	71
3	PANASONIC KX-TG 8521	60	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	69
4	PHILIPS ID965	150	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	66
5	PHILIPS XL375	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	66
6	MAGICBOX Katana ^a	50	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	65
7	SANDSTROM S100DT10	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★★	★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	65
8	PHILIPS CD275	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	64
9	AMPLICOM Powertel 580 ^b	72	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	62
10	BINATONE Fusion 2815	25	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	★★★★★	★★★★	★★★★★	★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	62

TEST RATINGS FOR MORE THAN 275 PREVIOUSLY TESTED CORDLESS PHONES CAN BE ACCESSED ON OUR WEBSITE AT www.which.co.uk/cordless_phones

a With answering machine b Compatible with hearing aids

Using the table

Specification

Price

See page 33 Twin/triple/quad handset The number you can buy in a pack. Additional handsets for some phones also sold separately.

Copy numbers between handsets Most handsets store numbers – this allows you to

copy these to another handset **Incoming call barring** You can programme the phone not to receive calls from certain numbers.

Test performance

Battery life How long the rechargeable battery lasts in continuous use **Phone range** Phones

tested through different walls and at up to 35m.

Phone earpiece sound quality Incoming handset sound quality **Loudspeaker sound quality** Incoming speakerphone sound quality.

Score

Ignores price and is based on:

- Ease of use 30%
- Sound quality 30%
- Features 20%
- Battery 10%
- Power use 5%
- Range 5%