You're likely overpaying for your broadband bill... here's what to do

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[00:00:09] **James Rowe:** Are you paying over the odds for your broadband and mobile bill? Well, this is how much you should really be paying.

[00:00:20] **James Rowe:** Hello, it's James Earl here again, with which shorts the podcast that gives you a free taster of one of our magazines every single week. And today I've got some brilliant advice about reducing the cost of your mobile bill. And your broadband bill. Now, in the August September issue of Witch Tech, Lisa Barber shared her best advice on what you can do to potentially cut hundreds of pounds from your bills every single year.

[00:00:49] **James Rowe:** Here's Lisa's piece. Adapted for the podcast This week read by Lucia Ariano.

[00:01:05] **Lucia Ariano:** If you're outta contract for your mobile phone and you're paying more than eight pounds a month, there's a good chance you're paying more than you need to think. How much data are you getting and how much do you actually use? Well, networks are known to offer huge amounts of data in their contracts, and some charge far more for it than others.

[00:01:25] **Lucia Ariano:** Our research has shown that two thirds of phone users use less than eight gigabytes per month. And only a quarter use more than 10 gigabytes. So if you are with one of the bigger firms, that's EO two Vodafone, or three now called Vodafone three. After a recent merger, you are very likely to save by switching, let's say you want to be with O2.

[00:01:47] **Lucia Ariano:** The best deal we could find was 24 pounds for 10 gigabytes of data. But if you go with a small firm instead, such as ID mobile or talk mobile, you'll find 10 gigabyte deals for eight pounds or less. That's a third of the price of O2. But what if you need more data? Well, if you regularly stream TV and movies when you are out and about or use your phone as a wifi hotspot, it's reassuring to know you won't run out of data or gets.

[00:02:12] **Lucia Ariano:** Done with unexpected costs, which is why unlimited data looks so attractive. But only 5% of mobile customers use more than 50 gigabytes per month based on our survey. Again, if you're with one of the big firms, you are likely paying far too much, particularly since they all put up their prices come April every year, which will affect you even if you are on a contract.

[00:02:36] **Lucia Ariano:** The cheapest unlimited data deals we found were 31 pounds with. 3 35 pounds with ee, 38 pounds with O2 and 45 pounds with Vodafone. The smaller firms not only don't put up their prices mid-contract, but they're a lot cheaper too. We found deals from ID Mobile Smart and Talk Mobile for 16 pounds or less.

[00:02:57] **Lucia Ariano:** You can find loads more deals like this on our website, which.co uk slash phone dash deals. If you don't know whether or not you are out of contract, you can text the word info to 8 5 0 7 5 for three, and you'll get an instant answer and. What about broadband Bills full fiber services are more reliable and faster than older partial fiber ones and are now available to more than three quarters of UK premises.

[00:03:25] **Lucia Ariano:** Prices have dropped too. The regulator Ofcom found that the promotional prices for the fastest deals have actually decreas. In the past year, conversely, the amount broadband users are paying has increased mainly because the big providers put up their prices every spring. So if you haven't switched providers, you're almost certainly paying too much.

[00:03:45] **Lucia Ariano:** When we use the which switch Broadband service to analyze full fiber deals with the UK average download speed of at least 70 megabits per second, we found many widely available deals that cost 30 pounds or less a month. That's even with upfront costs, promotional discounts, and future price increases factored.

[00:04:05] **Lucia Ariano:** Check what deals are available to you@wich.co uk slash broadband. You can easily compare deals by the total contract cost, which includes price increases. You'll likely see your monthly bills rise by around three pounds. Thanks to many companies, use of annual price rises. For the quarter of premises that don't have full fiber yet, you don't need to pay more.

[00:04:27] **Lucia Ariano:** When we looked at partial fiber services, we found you can still get between 61 and 74 megabits per second for less than 30 pounds a month. Where you live can impact how much you will pay too. If you live in Hull or London, for example, you can take up even cheaper deals offered by community fiber and k om.

[00:04:48] **Lucia Ariano:** Other affordable providers, including Hyperoptic, are continually expanding. So watch out for them when you search for a deal.

[00:05:04] **James Rowe:** Thanks for listening to this podcast from Witch, the UK's consumer champion. You can find plenty more advice about what we discuss today in the show notes. There you'll also find a link to become a witch member for 50% off the usual price. An offer exclusively available to you are podcast listeners.

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