

Lobo Internet COVID-19 Notice

Lobo Internet is prepared, monitoring and adjusting to COVID-19

As people and organizations worldwide manage the impact of COVID-19, Lobo Internet is taking active measures to help our customers, partners and employees prioritize their well-being and safety.

We are constantly monitoring usage across our network and are working to add capacity, modify paths, and adjust traffic based on customer utilization. We're prepared to ensure traffic flows smoothly across our network, regardless of increased demand.

For the latest information on how COVID-19 as it relates to your services with us please visit our home page at <https://lobo.net>

You will also notice that our newsletter is now online at <https://lobo.net/newsletter> and we will not be sending them with each invoice anymore.

Tips To Make Working From Home Work For You

Never before have workers telecommuted on such a broad scale. Millions of people are trying to work from home — if they can, of course. Life Kit wants to help WFH work for you, especially if you're doing so for the first time.

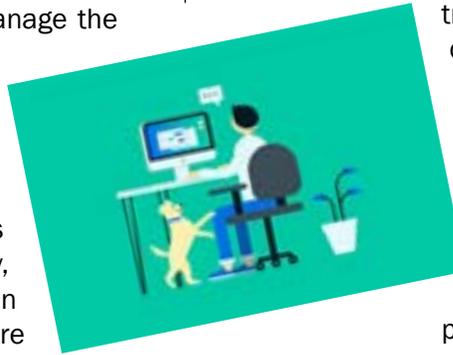
Here are some pro-tips from the NPR website for working remotely, possibly for an extended period of time.

1. Get your technology in order.

Technology is what enables remote work in the first place.

So make sure to take your laptop home, and don't forget your charger. Also, take home your mouse and keyboard — anything that might make working on your laptop from home a little easier.

If you don't have a work laptop and you'll be spending a long time remote, ask if your supervisor wants you to take your desktop computer home. If you don't drive and it's too much to carry on public transport, ask your employer if you can expense a taxi or rideshare.



Then there's the software. Make sure you have the right applications. Lots of remote workers are leaning heavily on Slack, Microsoft Teams, Skype, Zoom or GoToMeeting. Iron out what your team is planning to use ASAP.

2. Make sure you have bandwidth.

Another thing? Internet access — is yours robust enough at home to allow you to video conference? Many conferences and almost all nonessential work travel are being canceled right now, so people want to use online video conferencing, which requires a good Internet connection.

If your bandwidth is low and you're on a video call, try shutting down other programs to lighten the load on your connection. If your connection is really choppy, you can often shut off the video portion of a call and participate with audio only, which defeats the purpose of seeing your team but will still allow you to participate in the conversation.

Another Internet hog? Kids - If your connection is not robust, set some ground rules about when kids can't be online because mom is on a conference call, or stagger your video meetings with your partner or other family members if possible.

4. Manage expectations.

It's wise to have a discussion with your boss about what can actually be accomplished from home.

Ask your manager what the priorities are, and discuss how tasks will get done.

How are teams going to track projects they're

working on? How will they meet to discuss this? Will you all be connecting on Slack or email? Will there be standing meetings at a certain time to get everyone coordinated?

This should be an ongoing conversation. Remember, going fully remote is a new experience for many companies and their workers. Be honest about what isn't working or can't get done in these circumstances.

5. Know thyself (and thy WFH weaknesses).

If you're distractible, get ready for work every morning like you are going to physically go into work. Dress up, do your hair — whatever you'd normally do. This puts you in a professional mindset.

It's hard to draw a sharp distinction between home and office when you're at home. But to the extent possible, create a space at home that looks and feels like your office to you.

If you're the type of person who never takes a break at home, set a timer to take time for lunch, and turn off your work. Or go for a walk. If you don't change your venue at some point during the day and take a breather, it can make the claustrophobia worse. Try to maintain normal work hours, and shut things down when you would normally leave the office.

Try to appreciate the benefits that do come with remote work. You're not commuting. You're able to make your own lunch and save money doing so. You have more control over your schedule and more time with family. Focus on whatever positives you can find.

6. Stay connected.

One undeniable loss is the social, casual "water cooler" conversation that connects us to people — if you're not used to that loss, full-time remote work can feel isolating.

To fill the gap, some co-workers are scheduling online social time to have conversations with no agenda. Use Slack chats and things like that if you miss real-time interaction.

Again, embrace video calling and webcams so you can see your colleagues. Try an icebreaker over your team chat: What's everyone's favorite TV show right now? What's one good thing that someone read that day?

7. Do what you can; discuss when you can't.

Before the spread of the coronavirus, roughly half of American workers were doing at least some telework.

If you really can't work remotely, ask your employer what you can do to make sure you're not losing pay. That said, this is a shifting landscape. It's not clear that hourly workers or workers who can't do remote work will be paid if they can't work.

The lack of paid leave or sick leave is certainly in the spotlight because of this virus. Some companies, including McDonald's, Walmart and Amazon are now saying they will offer paid leave or sick leave to protect the health of customers as well as their workers.

So the best thing is to ask your manager or human resources department. If you cannot do your work remotely and you cannot come to work, what is the compensation? Or if you can work, what are the precautions they've prepared for you? And finally, if you do get sick, will your employer pay for your leave or workers' compensation?

8. What about the dog?

Dog owners that are able to work from home and don't have to routinely leave their furry friends for the day might be surprised. Some dogs ease into this scenario and are able to be with their owners throughout the day with without exhibiting behavioral issues. For others, however, there are a number of behavioral problems that may arise—such as dogs demanding attention by barking or whining, often at the worst possible times. Read on to find out how to address these common issues - there are plenty of resources for dealing with these issues online, just do a quick google search and you'll be on your way to a successful furry co-worker situation, which can be very rewarding!

