

Lit vs Dark Fiber:

What's the difference?

With escalating bandwidth, latency, and financial demands, many companies—healthcare, finance, education, and software—in addition to traditional service providers, are turning to dark fiber to save money while creating future-proof networks for their operations.



Control



LIT FIBER

The service provider manages the service and controls the implementation and change management of upgrades or downgrades.



DARK FIBER

You have full control over the fiber as you manage it with your own networking gear.



Cost



LIT FIBER

Cost of bandwidth can change with network requirements.



DARK FIBER

Cost of bandwidth is determined by your electronics choice and can be adjusted to fit business needs.



Security



LIT FIBER

The fiber is shared between multiple customers and not dedicated.



DARK FIBER

Increased security due to fewer network access points and fiber that is dedicated to each customer.



Scalability



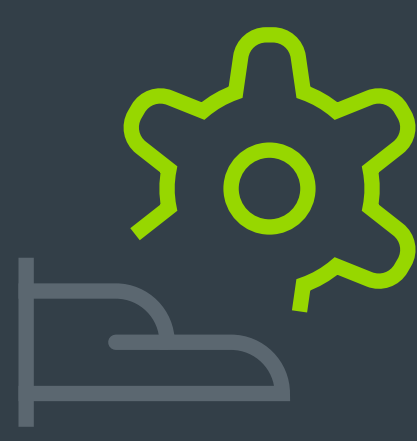
LIT FIBER

Limited by the circuit capacity that was purchased.



DARK FIBER

Virtually unlimited bandwidth only bound by the network equipment chosen.



Availability



LIT FIBER

Most service providers offer lit services as standard products.



DARK FIBER

Not all service providers offer dark fiber as a standard product. And few providers are willing to build new, custom dark fiber routes for customers versus only selling what is already in the ground.



Is Dark Fiber Right for You?

[Take the assessment now](#)