

LAN + shared Internet connection

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Hello,

A client of ours has a wired LAN in his store, which is used to support our invoicing system, with 5 computers on it. It was set up by a networking specialist and is working well.

Now he has gotten Internet access via DSL and he wants to be able to access the Internet from all computers. The DSL line comes into his office.

At the moment his computers are all connected through a Gigabit Internet Switch in the store, while the computer in his office is connected directly to the DSL modem, using the USB port.

I am aware that it is possible to set up his office computer to use Internet Connection Sharing, in effect turning that computer into a gateway.

I am also aware that the IP addresses on the LAN will change, although I am not sure if this will cause any problem.

The client has Linksys Wireless G Broadband router which was used for a wireless LAN, but which turned out to be too unreliable.

I was thinking that the best solution would be to hook the DSL modem into the Internet jack on the router, then hook the client's office computer into one of the network jacks on the router. Finally, the cable to the store, which connected his computer to the switch would be plugged into another network jack on the router. That should mean that all the computer in the store would also be connected to the router, and be able to connect to the Internet.

I am not an expert on networking, but it seems to me that the solution with the router would be the best. It would give him a hardware firewall on the outside of his LAN.

I have a similar setup at home and it is working well, except I have had some problems getting the computers on the LAN connecting to each other.

I would appreciate any comments or advice on this.

Ragnar

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