

For immediate release
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Aussies reluctant to hang up on landlines

- ➔ 55% of Australians are still holding onto a landline phone
- ➔ Two in five Gen Ys use smartphones exclusively
- ➔ What you need to consider before ditching your landline

28 July 2017, Sydney, Australia – New research from finder.com.au, the site that compares virtually everything, shows Aussies aren't pulling the plug on the trusty landline just yet.

The study of 2,005 respondents reveals 55% of Australians still have a landline phone, and just over a quarter (29%) rely solely on their smartphones.

While two in five Gen Ys (42%) use smartphones exclusively, a surprising 16% of Baby Boomers have already cut the cord.

Angus Kidman, tech expert at finder.com.au, says we've heard about the death of the landline for years now, but by 2025, it will truly have run its course.

"Smartphones have become cheaper and cheaper to run, with most plans offering unlimited calls and texts, so it's become a lot harder to justify keeping a landline," says Mr Kidman.

"Many Australians don't want to pay a home phone bill and a mobile bill every month, and it's easy to choose what they'll ditch."

As the NBN continues to roll out with the aim of being complete by 2020, the network will replace most existing landlines.

"Once the NBN comes through, I predict even more Aussies will ditch their landline phones. While many providers will offer phone services via an Internet connection -- also known as VOIP -- only a select few with fibre to the premises will have the option of a back-up battery service that will let them use their phone during a blackout," explains Mr Kidman.

"For an increasing number of Aussies in every age bracket, the convenience of mobile phones means they never go near landlines."

Of those who still have a landline phone, 42% say they regularly make calls, while 19% say they never use it.

A further 13% keep it in case of emergencies and 5% hang on to it for international calls.

The survey found one per cent of Australian adults (187,175 people) don't even know what a landline phone is.

What you need to consider before ditching your landline

1. Are you on a bundle?

If your home phone is bundled with your broadband plan, you might want to check how long is left on your contract and make the switch then. That will provide a good opportunity to reevaluate your Internet plan and make sure you're on the best deal.

2. Are you connected to the NBN?

A big factor for reconsidering a landline phone is whether your home is NBN-connected. Before you make your decision, [enter your address and check](#) if your home is NBN-ready.

3. Do you have the right mobile phone plan?

Most phone plans include unlimited national calls and text messages, so make sure your current plan offers this. If [international calls are a priority](#), choose a plan that includes international minutes. You'll also need to double check the fine print to ensure the countries you make your calls to are on the list.

4. Let your friends and family know

The last thing you want is friends and family not being able to get in touch with you. Share your phone number with everyone and let them know you have disconnected your landline.

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Our free service is 100% independently-owned by two Australians: Fred Schebesta and Frank Restuccia. Since launching in 2006, we've helped our users make more than 17 million decisions.

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