

Remote Access with TeamViewer vs. VPN

Choosing the Right Remote Work Solution
for Your Organization



How VPN Gained Acceptance

In 1996, a Microsoft employee developed the peer-to-peer tunneling protocol (PPTP) to create a private connection between a computer and the internet. It became the precursor of the first Virtual Private Network (VPN), which uses the tunnel to securely transfer data between two computers. When VPN made its way to market, it was the only technology available to individuals and businesses in need of a secure way to transfer files. In 1999, VPN filled the need.

TeamViewer Goes Beyond VPN

TeamViewer doesn't move your data from one computer to another through a tunnel like VPN. Your data never leaves your corporate office. Remote TeamViewer users work on a mirror image of the in-office computer. The remote keyboard, mouse, and monitor become virtual extensions of the host computer. No data is transferred, so there's no bottleneck or bandwidth strain like VPN. TeamViewer has more than 99.9 percent uptime — connections aren't dropped, and every session is secured by end-to-end encryption.

Millions of people work from home now. Companies must enable employees to be as productive from home as they are at the office. Two popular ways to facilitate remote work are VPN and TeamViewer.

Whatever solution your organization chooses, it needs to empower workers to:

- Work from any location at any time, across devices and operating systems
- Remote in to their office workstation and company servers to access files and applications
- Connect securely without sacrificing performance or productivity
- Get on-demand IT remote support on any device, from anywhere

The inability of VPN to scale bandwidth as demand soars — plus considerable upfront acquisition and maintenance costs — has made remote access alternatives like TeamViewer more attractive to businesses of all sizes. Like VPN, TeamViewer is a secure way to remote in to your company's network. Unlike VPN, TeamViewer can be used within minutes of installation to remote in to individual computers, mobile devices, or unattended machines — including point of sale machines (POS), kiosks, digital signage, and IoT devices — with fast connections and no ongoing maintenance costs.

Key Challenges for IT

Increasing numbers of remote workers need to access office desktops and company servers.

- IT needs to support a distributed workforce efficiently
- All remote connections must be secured by end-to-end encryption
- Remote connections must be fast and reliable for maximum employee productivity

Key Challenges of VPN

- When many employees work from home, data bottlenecks can slow productivity.
- VPNs can stop working suddenly for a number of reasons, including firewall and router conflicts.
- There are maintenance costs as hardware and software require updates or reach the end of their life cycle.
- Remote employees using applications that require heavy processing power are limited to the power and memory of the device they have at hand.

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Features	TeamViewer Remote access with TeamViewer allows you to connect to a target device, such as a computer or tablet. The only data transferred is an image of what's displayed on the target device's screen. Users can take control of the target mouse and keyboard or touchscreen to operate the devices, using all the applications and files as though they were there in person.	Virtual Private Network (VPN) A VPN, or virtual private network, allows you to send and receive data through a tunnel between two devices. All data is transferred through the VPN server to that user's local device, which places it at risk of loss and/or theft. This enables you to connect to a corporate network and access resources behind a firewall. All processing power depends on the user's local device.
Enables IT to provide remote support and users to receive remote support on their devices	✓	✗
Access workstations	✓	✗
Remote file transfers	✓	✓
Remote device control	✓	✗
Access unattended devices	✓	✗
Remote in to corporate network	✓	✓
Configuration and maintenance costs	n/a	\$\$\$
Instant scalability	✓	✗

Your Security, Built into TeamViewer

- End-to-end 256-bit AES encryption
- Two-factor authentication
- GDPR and HIPAA compliant
- 24/7 ISO 27001 certified data centers
- DigiCert Code Signing
- Learn more about TeamViewer security in our [Trust Center](#)



Resources

- [Download TeamViewer free for personal use](#)
- [Request a free 14-day TeamViewer trial for business](#)
- [Learn more at teamviewer.com/vpn](#)
- [Read blog: Remote Access Picks Up Where Your VPN Leaves Off](#)

About TeamViewer

As a leading global remote connectivity platform, TeamViewer empowers users to connect anyone, anything, anywhere, anytime. TeamViewer offers secure remote access, support, control, and collaboration capabilities for online endpoints of any kind and supports businesses of all sizes to tap into their full digital potential. TeamViewer has been activated on approximately 2.2 billion devices; up to 45 million devices are online at the same time. Founded in 2005 in Göppingen, Germany, TeamViewer is a publicly held company listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange, employing about 1,000 people in offices across Europe, the US, and Asia Pacific.

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