

## Managing Data Usage on Your Phone Plan

### Data usage on your phone plan.

This support article will give you key information about keeping track of data usage on your phone plan. It will also provide tips to help you avoid going over your data allowance.

### How to manage data usage on your phone plan.

The best way to manage data usage on your phone plan is through [gsim.au](http://gsim.au). You can get a Data Add-on through [www.gsim.au](http://www.gsim.au)

Most smartphones also have in-built data monitors to provide details of your data usage.

### How much data will you need?

As an estimate, here's a guide describing how much data you'll need each month for various online activities. These estimates are based on typical sizes and are subject to change – your usage may vary but in general we estimate streaming videos/movies in standard definition at 0.7GB per hour, streaming music at 128MB per hour and app downloads at 1GB per item – all on the Vodafone 3G and 4G mobile network. As apps become more sophisticated and cameras create higher resolution images and video, it's likely that your data consumption will increase.

	1 app download/ day	2 apps downloaded/ day	3 apps downloaded/ day	5 apps downloaded/ day	10 apps downloaded/ day
<b>App Downloads</b>	1GB	2GB	3GB	5GB	10GB

	30 mins/ day	60 mins/ day	90 mins/ day	120 mins/ day	150 mins/ day	180 mins/ day
Steaming videos/ movies	14GB	27GB	41GB	54GB	68GB	81GB
Streaming music/ podcasts/ radio	1GB	3GB	4GB	5GB	7GB	8GB
Video calls and messaging	4GB	7GB	11GB	14GB	18GB	22GB
Browsing websites and email	1GB	3GB	4GB	5GB	7GB	8GB
Social media browsing and sharing	5GB	11GB	16GB	22GB	27GB	32GB

## Tips For Limiting Your Data Usage

Here are some other ways you can limit your data usage.

### 1. Connect to Wifi

When you're connected to a WiFi network, you won't use your plan's mobile data.

To reduce your mobile data usage connect to WiFi when completing data tasks such as:

- Installing software updates.
- Downloading and updating apps.
- Syncing cloud storage services.
- Streaming video and audio.

### 2. Device data monitors

Most smartphones have in-built data monitors to provide details of your data usage.

### 3. Switch off mobile data access

You can limit your data usage by switching off mobile data access in your phone's settings. Some devices also allow you to restrict mobile data access for certain apps or features.

### 4. Switch off background data

Your device may still be using data in the background, even when you're not actively using it. To reduce your background data, you can try switching off automatic:

- Backups
- File transfers
- App updates
- Email refresh and attachment downloads

### 5. Data saving in apps

Your device may still be using data in the background, even when you're not actively using it. To reduce your background data, you can try switching off automatic:

Many popular apps have data saving features that can be configured to help reduce the amount of data they use.

Facebook

Turn off **Video Autoplay**.

Instagram

Turn on **Use Less Data**.

Snapchat

Turn on **Travel Mode**.

YouTube

Turn off **High Quality setting**.

Google Chrome (Android only)

Turn on **Data Saver**.