

Contents at a Glance

<i>Introduction</i>	1
<i>Part I: The Wonderful World of Wireless Fidelity</i>	7
Chapter 1: Taking the Wi-Fi Highway	9
Chapter 2: Selecting a Standard.....	17
Chapter 3: Gearing Up.....	29
Chapter 4: Putting Your Gear Together	55
<i>Part II: Surfing the Net Unplugged</i>	77
Chapter 5: Spotting Hotspots.....	79
Chapter 6: Using Truck- and RV-Friendly Hotspots	93
<i>Part III: Bridging the Wireless Gap</i>	121
Chapter 7: Cellular Data Services: Can You Connect Me Now?	123
Chapter 8: Reattaching the Wired Tether.....	147
Chapter 9: Sky-High Wi-Fi	161
<i>Part IV: Securing Your Information</i>	179
Chapter 10: Taking Common-Sense Steps to Security	181
Chapter 11: Encrypting Data.....	213
Chapter 12: Accessing Your Home PC Remotely.....	231
<i>Part V: Taking Care of Business</i>	251
Chapter 13: Talking Cheap with VoIP	253
Chapter 14: Managing the Over-the-Road Office	271
<i>Part VI: Entertaining Electronics</i>	289
Chapter 15: Extra-Terrestrial Radio	291
Chapter 16: Taking the Show on the Road	307
<i>Part VII: The Part of Tens</i>	327
Chapter 17: Ten Must-Have Travel Accessories	329
Chapter 18: Ten Fantastic Free Applications	337
<i>Index</i>	349

Table of Contents

.....

***Introduction*..... 1**

About This Book.....	1
Foolish Assumptions	2
How This Book Is Organized.....	2
Part I: The Wonderful World of Wireless Fidelity	3
Part II: Surfing the Net Unplugged.....	3
Part III: Bridging the Wireless Gap	3
Part IV: Securing Your Information	4
Part V: Taking Care of Business	4
Part VI: Entertaining Electronics	4
Part VII: The Part of Tens	5
Conventions Used in This Book	5
Icons Used in This Book.....	5

***Part I: The Wonderful World of Wireless Fidelity* 7**

Chapter 1: Taking the Wi-Fi Highway 9

Why Wireless?	9
Exploring the advantages.....	10
So . . . what, no disadvantages?	11
Examining your options.....	11
Taking the plunge	12
The Nuts and Bolts of Wi-Fi	12
CB radios for computers	12
What the heck is a hotspot?.....	14
Deciding on the Best Route	15
If you're a trucker	15
If you're an RVer.....	16

Chapter 2: Selecting a Standard 17

Matching Purpose to Standard.....	17
Defining your primary purpose.....	18
Identifying secondary goals	18
Focusing on the Front-Runners	19
802.11a: Connecting over short distances	20
802.11b: Opting for the basic standard	20
802.11g: The speedier standard.....	20
802.11n: Looking to the future	21

Ensuring Compliance and Compatibility	21
Speed Limits on the Cyberhighway	24
Measuring speeds in cyberspace	24
Comparing advertised and actual wireless speeds	25
Comparing common Internet-connection speeds	26
Picking the Standard That Meets Your Needs	27
Chapter 3: Gearing Up	29
Surveying Your Needs Before You Shop	29
Living Large with a Laptop	31
Ensuring wireless capability	32
Employing a Wi-Fi-friendly operating system	33
Scouting out durability	34
Keeping Life Compact with a PDA	35
Deciding on an operating system	37
Picking a PDA	38
Considering your wireless options	41
Customizing with a browser, mouse, and keyboard	41
Getting more PDA info	42
Adapting Your Laptop or PDA for Wireless	43
Looking at enhanced-performance laptop adapters	45
Perusing PDA adapters	48
Extending Your Range	48
Comparing directional and omni-directional antennas	49
Choosing an indoor versus an outdoor antenna	50
Checking out example antennas	52
Getting cables and connectors	53
Combining power and sensitivity in a kit	54
Chapter 4: Putting Your Gear Together	55
Getting Ready to Install a Wireless Adapter	55
Read the instructions	56
Addressing the Wireless Zero Configuration utility	56
Eliminating conflict between integrated wireless and wireless adapters	59
Installing a Wireless Adapter (Laptop)	60
Installing the drivers	60
Running the adapter's connection utility	62
Installing a Wireless Adapter (PDA)	64
Setting up the PDA or Pocket PC	64
Updating drivers and firmware	66
Attaching an External Antenna	66
Setting up an outdoor omnidirectional antenna	67
Setting up an outdoor directional antenna	72
Setting up an indoor antenna	73
Putting an External Amplifier in the Mix	74
Installing for intermittent use	75
Installing for constant use	75

***Part II: Surfing the Net Unplugged*.....77**
Chapter 5: Spotting Hotspots79

Checking Wireless Directories.....	79
Getting the most out of online directories.....	80
Putting a directory on your device.....	81
Using Wireless Network Detectors.....	81
Shopping for a Wi-Fi detector.....	82
Sniffing out a signal.....	84
Putting Network Detection Software to Work.....	84
Adding NetStumbler to a laptop.....	85
Configuring NetStumbler.....	87
Finding a network.....	89
Using 'Stumbler to aim your antenna.....	90
Adding MiniStumbler to your PDA.....	92

Chapter 6: Using Truck – and RV – Friendly Hotspots 93

Evaluating Your Choices.....	93
Truck stops and travel centers.....	95
RV parks and campgrounds.....	97
Hotels, motels, and cafés.....	99
Making the Connection.....	100
Using the WZC utility to connect.....	100
Using connection management software.....	102
Setting up an account.....	104
Getting logged on.....	104
Being a good neighbor.....	105
Troubleshooting Your Connection.....	106
Identifying global issues.....	106
Checking the simple stuff.....	107
Releasing and renewing your IP address.....	109
Getting the “Page cannot be displayed” message.....	109
Configuring TCP/IP to use DNS.....	111
Eliminating conflicts.....	112
Using E-Mail at a Hotspot.....	113
Exploring your options.....	114
Comparing a few free Web mail services.....	115
Configuring an e-mail client.....	117

***Part III: Bridging the Wireless Gap*..... 121**
Chapter 7: Cellular Data Services: Can You Connect Me Now? ... 123

Choosing Your Tools.....	124
Which will it be — data card or cellphone?.....	125
Choosing a carrier.....	126

Comparing speeds and standards.....	126
Sorting through the services	127
Connecting with a Cell Data Card	128
Making the hardware choice.....	129
Setting up a data card	131
Logging on.....	133
Connecting with Your Cellphone	133
Making the connection via data cable.....	134
Making the connection with Bluetooth	140
Combining Wi-Fi and Cellular	144
Boosting Your Signal.....	145
Finding Additional Information	146
Chapter 8: Reattaching the Wired Tether	147
Preparing for Travel.....	147
Delving into Dialup.....	148
Dialup Unplugged (Kind Of)	151
Comparing wireless dialup modems.....	151
Using the WiFlyer	154
Chapter 9: Sky-High Wi-Fi	161
Surfing with a Satellite: The Basics	161
How do satellite connections work?	162
The limiting factors	164
Surveying the Known Universe of Options.....	165
Manually deployed systems.....	166
Auto-deployed VSAT systems	167
Deciding which system suits you.....	169
Going the DIY Route.....	171
Becoming a certified installer.....	171
Purchasing the pieces.....	173
Aiming your dish without screaming.....	174
Getting a Self-Pointing VSAT Installed	175
Finding a dealer	175
Getting support.....	176
Receiving TV, Too.....	177
Part IV: Securing Your Information	179
Chapter 10: Taking Common-Sense Steps to Security	181
Identifying Security Threats	182
Beware of Geeks Bearing Gifts	183
Avoiding the evil twin	183
Uncovering hidden extensions	187
Protecting against drive-by spyware	190
Understanding EULAs.....	192

Protecting Your Data.....192
 Locking up your laptop192
 Password protecting your laptop.....193
 Closing the file-sharing door196
 Vaccinating against viruses198
 Using Built-in Security Features199
 Using Windows Security Center200
 Keeping your operating system up-to-date.....202
 Blocking the Bad Guys with a Firewall203
 Finding a firewall204
 Setting up a personal firewall204
 Employing a Virtual Private Network207
 What's a VPN?208
 Examining SpotLock by JiWire.....209

Chapter 11: Encrypting Data213

Examining Data Encryption213
 Exploring the advantages214
 Perusing the possibilities215
 Getting Started with Cryptainer LE216
 Downloading and installing the program216
 Setting up Cryptainer.....216
 Encrypting Files.....217
 Creating an encrypted vault217
 Moving your files into the vault.....219
 Accessing your encrypted files220
 Creating new vaults and other tricks.....221
 Shutting down Cryptainer LE.....222
 Sending Encrypted E-Mail or Attachments222
 Encrypting Program Applications.....224
 Installing WinGuard Pro.....225
 Using WinGuard Pro225
 Using File Encryption in Windows XP Pro227
 Setting up user accounts228
 Encrypting folders and files228
 Decrypting files and folders229
 Making sure you can access encrypted data.....229

Chapter 12: Accessing Your Home PC Remotely231

Examining Remote Access232
 Why would I want to do this?232
 Exploring the possibilities.....233
 Using RealVNC235
 Setting up RealVNC237
 Setting up Hamachi239
 Configuring your network241
 Controlling the host from a remote location242

Using Windows XP Pro Remote Desktop	244
Getting started	244
Setting up the host PC	245
Preparing your client	246
Making the connection	246
Getting Your Feet Wet with LogMeIn Free	247
Setting up LogMeIn on your host PC	247
Configuring firewalls to allow remote access	248
Accessing the host remotely	249

Part V: Taking Care of Business.....251

Chapter 13: Talking Cheap with VoIP253

Exploring VoIP	253
Understanding the basics	254
Getting started	255
Selecting a Service	256
Comparing converter-based services	258
Comparing computer-based services	259
Turning Your Laptop into a Phone	261
Finding the hardware you need	262
Getting started with Skype	263
Installing Skype software	263
Configuring Skype	264
Making and Receiving Calls	266
Calling another Skype user	266
Calling anyone and everyone	267
Setting up Skype to receive calls	269

Chapter 14: Managing the Over-the-Road Office271

Setting Up Your Office	271
Navigating by Satellite	273
Ready-to-use GPS devices	273
Adapting a laptop or PDA for GPS	275
Mounting your device for easy access	277
Using Online Load Matching Services	279
Comparing the contenders	280
Considering alternatives	280
Trucking Simplified with Software	281
Keeping your logbook on your laptop	281
Keeping track of expenses	283
Managing the Home Front	284
Printing Records	285
Choosing a travel printer	286
Saving documents for future printing	287

Part VI: Entertaining Electronics289**Chapter 15: Extra-Terrestrial Radio291**

Surveying the Satellite Radio Scene	292
What does satellite radio have to offer?.....	292
Comparing content	293
Setting up satellite radio	294
Evaluating Equipment.....	295
Examining system configurations	296
Finding the right radio	297
Setting Up a Satellite Radio System	300
Location, location, location	301
Installing the antenna	302
Choosing a Plug & Play cradle mount.....	303
Sending sound to the stereo	304
Activating the service.....	305

Chapter 16: Taking the Show on the Road307

Getting Music, Movies and More (Legally)	308
Putting a Little Music in Your Laptop	309
Finding a media player	310
Ripping CDs to your computer	311
Downloading music files.....	313
Subscribing to a music service.....	314
Watching Movies on the Road	316
Downloading pros and cons.....	316
Renting instead of downloading	318
Streaming TV	320
Getting TV via the Internet.....	320
Scoping Out Satellite TV.....	322
Settling on a satellite antenna.....	323
Setting up the system	323
Getting Bookish	324

Part VII: The Part of Tens.....327**Chapter 17: Ten Must-Have Travel Accessories329**

Toting Your Laptop in the Right Luggage.....	330
Maintaining Your Laptop.....	330
Charging up	330
Keeping your laptop clean	331
Accessorizing Your Workspace	332
Desks without legs	332
Mice without tails.....	333
Phones without hands	334

Entertaining Accessories	334
MP3 players.....	334
Portable speakers.....	335
Sharing your over-the-road life.....	335
Chapter 18: Ten Fantastic Free Applications	337
Enhancing Your Desktop	338
Stickies	338
Desktop Sidebar	339
Monitoring Your Computer	341
LookInMyPC	341
Process Explorer	342
Office Productivity Applications	343
AbiWord	344
OpenOffice.....	345
Viewing Your Destination from Space	345
Google Earth	346
World Wind.....	346
Making Music	347
Audiograbber	347
Audacity.....	348
 Index.....	 349