



# In Touch

WINTER 2014



## May Your Holidays Be Filled With Sweet Moments

All of us at Woodstock Telephone Company wish you and your family the very best this holiday season. We hope you're able to enjoy plenty of time together whether baking, shopping, decorating, entertaining, or reminiscing.

Just as sprinkles add something special to holiday cookies, our services can enhance the devices in your home — from super-fast Internet to premium TV and movie packages. Visit [www.woodstocktel.net](http://www.woodstocktel.net) for details.

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# Woodstock

## MAKE DEVICES SHINE WITH FASTER INTERNET



### 10 MBPS\* HIGH SPEED INTERNET

- Up to 50 Mbps\* download and 25 Mbps\* upload speeds
- Ideal for video streaming, online gaming, and multiple-device households

ONLY  
**\$69<sup>95\*</sup>**  
MO

### GET A HOME WI-FI NETWORK

Call 507-658-3830 to enjoy "any room" Internet convenience.

\*Service availability and Internet speed will depend on location. Certain restrictions apply. All prices subject to change. Contact us for details.

## 5 Eco-Friendly Alternatives to Traditional Gift-Wrap

For decades, we've relied on store-bought paper gift-wrap that can be pricey and eventually ends up in the landfill. To reduce waste, consider switching to recycled or reusable materials.

1. **Fabric** is the ideal reusable material for wrapping gifts. It can be knotted, pinned, or tied with a ribbon. Look around your house for festive pillowcases, sheets, kitchen towels, and tablecloths. You can also buy inexpensive holiday fabrics.
2. **Clay pots** come in all sizes and can be decorated with paint or markers. Simply invert the dish for catching water and use it as a lid.
3. **Old maps** are relatively large sheets of paper that are already colorful in their own right.
4. **Store shopping bags** often have cool designs. Hide the store name on the bag with holiday labels or stickers.
5. **Children's artwork** makes sentimental, one-of-a-kind wrapping paper, especially for grandparents.

**Another eco-friendly idea is switching to our paperless e-Billing. Learn more at [www.woodstocktel.net](http://www.woodstocktel.net).**



## How to Avoid the Annoying Challenges of Video Chatting

Video chatting with applications like Skype, Google+ Hangouts, and FaceTime is a great way to enjoy face-to-face conversations with friends and family in other places. However, as you may have already discovered, there can be annoyances including unflattering angles and poor image quality. Check out these tips to make the most of video chatting:

**Pick the perfect place.** For the most flattering appearance, position yourself so you're facing a sunny window. If there isn't a window nearby or it's dark outside, choose a well-lit spot like the kitchen and make sure a lamp's light is coming toward you at face level. Having light coming from above or below creates dark shadows.

**Position the camera at eye level.** One of the main reasons people look bad during video chats is that the computer or tablet is placed low on a desk or lap, meaning the head is tilted downward. Being shot from the chin upward is the most unforgiving angle possible. As a quick fix, prop up your device with a stack of books.

**Look straight into the camera.** Resist the temptation, driven by concern about your appearance, to stare at your own miniaturized image on screen. Instead, think of the camera as the other person and give it eye contact. If you follow the preceding tips, you should be looking pretty good anyway.

**Give extra help to non-techy family members.** If you want, for example, to Skype with grandparents not familiar with this technology, set up the account for them and do some practice calls while you're in the next room. Also, print out the information they need, such as their username and password, and move the Skype icon to the desktop for easy access.

**Faster Internet speeds can also enhance video chatting. To learn more, call Woodstock Telephone Company at 507-658-3830.**