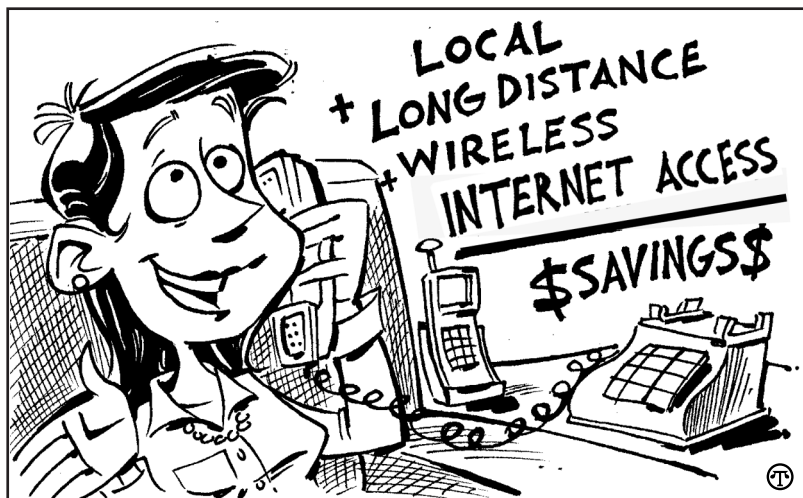


# Telephone Topics

## Telephone Packages: What You Should Know



Telephone package discounts can add up to big savings on your monthly bill, experts say.

(NAPSA)—Answering the call from consumers for increased savings, telephone companies keep coming up with new and better calling plans—and if you're looking to lower your monthly bill without compromising convenience, it can really pay to shop around, experts agree.

Package discounts are nothing new. Any experienced antique shopper knows that unless a price tag says "firm," you always ask if the seller can do any better—or risk losing at least a few dollars. Shopping for telephone products and services is no different—and the stakes may be even higher. If you're setting up services, they'll make you a deal. If not, you can call and ask your phone company about telephone package deals so you can cash in, not only on savings, but on convenience, control, privacy and peace of mind, say experts.

For example, one of the nation's leading providers of local, long distance, wireless and data telephone services, Verizon, offers a number of package discounts that can add up to big savings. In addition to discounts on local directory assistance, dial-up Internet access and optional convenience services such as Caller ID, \*69 and Three-Way Calling, when purchased in a

package, optional services can cost up to 60 percent less than when purchased individually.

Here are more examples of savings and convenience.

- Select local packages may include local calling; unlimited local directory assistance; four or more optional convenience services like Caller ID and Home Voice Mail, and Verizon Long Distance for as low as 8 cents a minute.

- Write only one check a month for all your phone services. If you're eligible for Verizon's ONE-BILL option, you can receive a single bill for all your telephone services—local, long distance, wireless, high-speed Internet access and optional services. There's no charge to switch to ONE-BILL.

- A discounted package for Massachusetts customers combines local, long-distance, wireless and optional convenience services.

Package prices range from about \$40 to \$100 a month. To find out more, visit [www.verizon.com](http://www.verizon.com) and check out the packages available in your area, or call a Verizon service representative who can help design a phone service package to meet your individual or family needs.