

How to Get Better Cell Phone Reception At Home

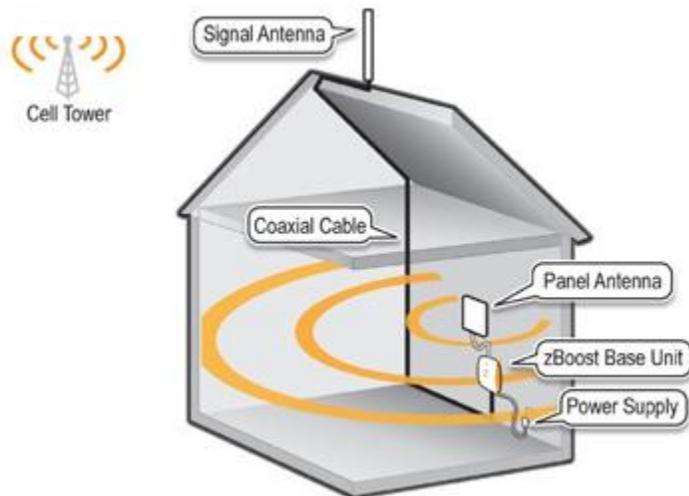
by Rachel Cohen on June 09, 2014

in [Phones and Mobile](#), [Internet Calling](#), [Tips & How-Tos](#)



There's something depressing about seeing a single, sad bar on your cell phone indicating barely any reception — or worse, no bars at all. The reality is that sometimes you need a little something extra to strengthen your signal so your calls, [texts](#) and everything else go through according to plan. Without that boost, your home becomes a dead zone.

Choose from these solutions for a boost that works with your budget, service and phone model.



Cell phone signal boosters

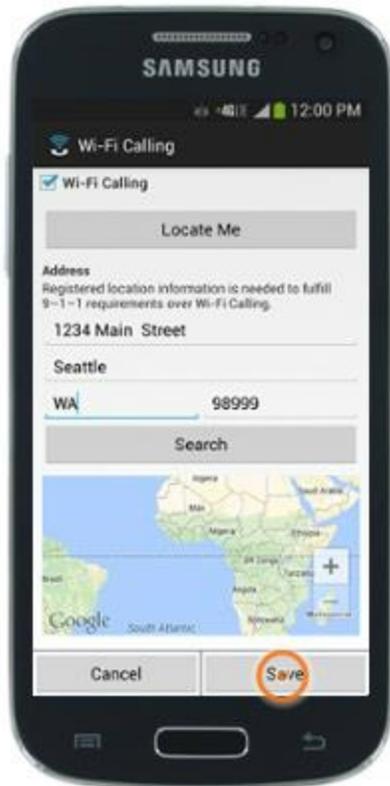
Sometimes referred to as a repeater, a cell phone signal booster is a bidirectional amplifier that enhances your reception whether the problem is interference, the location of the cell phone tower or something else. It receives a signal from the closest cell phone tower from a receiver you mount outside and passes it over a cable to the

amplifier, then increases the signal's strength and broadcasts it inside your home using an internal antenna. Since your phone is connecting to the strong signal generated by the antenna in your home, boosters also extend your phone's [battery life](#).

We like the highly-rated zBoost SOHO Xtreme Dual-Band Cell Phone Signal Booster Kit. This all-in-one package increases indoor signal coverage in homes of up to 5,500 square feet. And, it's compatible with all U.S. carriers and mobile devices using 800 and 1900 MHz (except Nextel/iDEN or 4G).

Price: \$342.78 at [Amazon](#)

Techlicious



Boost your WiFi calling

Did you know you can take advantage of public WiFi networks for better voice, data and messaging services? Unlike cell signal booster kits, there's no equipment required here. Downloading and installation take only a few minutes. Just activate [the WiFi service](#) by dragging it into your Apps folder and selecting the WiFi Calling icon.

Before you get too excited about this free service, keep in mind that it's only available so far [on Sprint](#). Also, [T-Mobile support](#) is available for certain phone models.

Connect your cell phone to your cordless



If at

least one spot in your home gets decent cell phone coverage, you can use a cordless phone to boost your reach. Simply pair your cell phone to your cordless phone, then take and make calls with your cordless phone from anywhere in your home. Our favorite devices are in Panasonic's Link to Cell line of cordless phones. They feature DECT 6.0 Plus for the highest calling quality, 10+ hours of talk time, an eco-mode, which uses less power when the handset is close to the base, and differentiated ring tones for cell phone calls.

Price: starts at \$59.95 at [Amazon](#) for a single handset model

[woman upset with phone via Shutterstock]