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I appreciate the effort made by the faculty members and students towards the successful completion of the One day workshop on "Exploring the Power of JAVA-An Interview Perspective".

I wish them all success.

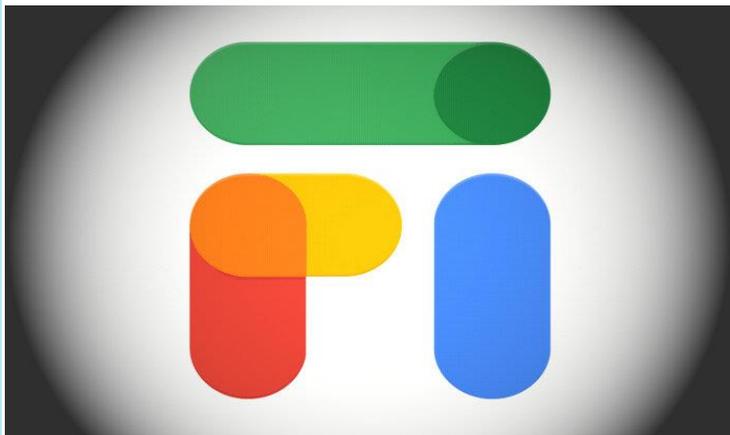
Dr. S.SELVAMUTHUKUMARAN.

Google Fi

S. Keerthana - IIMCA

Introduction:

Google's wireless service can save you money and provide some pretty appealing perks, but there's a lot to wrap your head around before deciding if Fi is right for you. Google Fi may sound like some weird sort of initiation ritual but if you can get past its silly sounding name, the Google-owned wireless service can both save you money *and* step up your smartphone security situation. Make no mistake about it: [Google Fi](#) known as Project Fi up until 2018 is a pretty unusual proposition. And it absolutely won't make sense for everyone. If you fall into a certain style of smartphone usage, though, it can eliminate a lot of the downsides that typically come with a traditional wireless plan. So how does Fi actually work, and could it be right for you? Let's tackle it question by burning question and figure that out together.



What exactly is Google Fi — or Project Fi, or whatever you want to call it?

Google Fi is technically what's known as an MVNO, or mobile virtual network operator. That's a fancy name for an entity that provides wireless service that allows you to make and receive calls and use mobile data from that shiny rectangle in your pocket without actually owning the network infrastructure behind it. It doesn't have its own network like AT&T or Verizon; instead, it has an arrangement with those same sorts of carriers that allows it to tap into *their* networks and repackage access to those pipes under its own brand and arrangement.

What about the Wi-Fi part of the process?

Google Fi does indeed incorporate public Wi-Fi networks into its coverage, provided you're using a phone that was [designed explicitly for Fi use](#). That's another unusual and noteworthy part of its proposition. And just like with the mobile network switching, it all happens automatically and without any effort on your behalf. Here's how it works: Anytime you're in range of a publicly available Wi-Fi network that Google has determined to be high-quality and reliable your Fi phone will switch over to that instead of using your regular mobile network. You'll see it happen in retail establishments with open Wi-Fi networks or anywhere else that has Wi-Fi available without the need for any sort of sign-in.

Fi automatically encrypts your data anytime it's connected to a network in that manner, using a special Google-provided virtual private network (VPN) — which means that no one else on the network could snoop on your connection and see what you're doing (in the way you often hear described as a risk of using public Wi-Fi networks). But just like with the service's mobile network switching, you don't really think about any of that stuff in day-to-day use. With the Wi-Fi, you *do* see a special icon in your status bar showing that you're connected to a network with the Google-provided encryption enabled, but other than that, things just work — and you don't put much thought into what network or type of network your phone has attached itself to at any given moment.

5 handy Google Fi features

Got Fi? Google's unusual wireless service may have shifted its name from Project Fi to Google Fi this fall, but its core proposition remains the same: Pay only for the data you use, and avoid all the traditional carrier gotchas and nonsense. For the right kind of person, especially among those of us on Android, Fi can be a real cost- *and* hassle-saver. And aside from its most prominently promoted perks the seamless network-switching, the public Wi-Fi use, the fee-free roaming and hotspot capabilities.

Google Fi feature #1: Free data-only SIMs

One of Google Fi's most valuable and broadly untapped benefits is the service's free data-only SIM program. If you open up the Fi website or app and select "Manage plan," you'll see an unassuming option labeled "Add data-only SIM." Click or tap that, and Fi will walk you through the steps to add a data-only SIM to your account. A laptop or tablet with a SIM

card slot or even just an old phone into an extension of your main Fi service, provided it's compatible with Fi's networks. Just pop that sucker in wherever you want, and the device will instantly be online and ready for your use. All you'll pay is the same standard \$10 per gigabyte rate, and if you don't use any data in a given month, you won't pay anything; unlike with most other carriers, there are no silly surcharges or fees simply for the "privilege" of having an add-on device.

Google Fi feature #2: An always-on VPN

As part of its grand rebranding last week, Google Fi unveiled a noteworthy new option for subscribers: the ability to have *all* of your data encrypted via Google's VPN, all the time no matter where you are or what type of network you're using provided your phone is running Android 9 Pie. Previously, Fi had encrypted data only when the service connected you to a public Wi-Fi network as part of its network-switching setup. This new feature lets you extend that same protection to all of your data mobile network or Wi-Fi, automatic connection or not. That, suffice it to say, is significant especially for business users and anyone else concerned about optimal security. Network snooping is one of the most realistic concerns for mobile security these days far more so than that big, bad Android malware monster we hear about so often.



Google Fi feature #3: Call forwarding

It's easy to forget that Google Fi started out as an extension of Google Voice, in many ways, with a fair number of the former service's features intact. One such feature is call forwarding and it's a handy option that's still around and potentially quite useful. The way it works is simple: You add a number into Fi's forwarding list, and anytime you get a call, it'll ring on both your cell phone *and* that second number so you can answer it wherever you want. Personally, I use this in conjunction with a free Google-associated home office "phone line" I created so that any calls coming into my main number ring the landline-style phone on my desk in addition to ringing my cell phone.

The old-school desk phone is more comfy and convenient to talk on, and it doesn't run down my main phone's battery. If call forwarding might make sense in some capacity for you, look for the aptly named "call forwarding" option under "phone settings" on the Fi app's main screen.

Google Fi feature #5: Group repay

The short version is this: Every additional number on your account has a \$15 flat service fee instead of the usual \$20. Then you share the pool of monthly mobile data for whatever amount you need. It's a smart way to spend less without any real downside — and while the obvious idea may be to use it with family members, the plan actually doesn't have to be limited to those who share your name and/or DNA.

You can set up a Fi group plan with anyone you know, in fact — friends, co-workers, random rodents encountered in coffee shop basements, and so on. As long as you trust them to handle their part of the bill (I'd be careful with those rodents), you'll save five bucks per month for every person you add into a group. And those are savings you can then all split.

The easily overlooked part of the program is something called "group repay." It's a simple way to set things up with a Google Fi group so that members of your group will get automatic reminders each month telling them exactly how much they owe you for their part of the service. And the best part: Each reminder is accompanied by a one-tap command that pays you back immediately via Google Pay.

If you've got a Google Fi group, open the Fi app, select the Billing tab at the bottom of the screen, and look for the "Group repay" option under "Payment Settings" to get started.

Project Fi has a powerful bonus feature hidden in plain sight

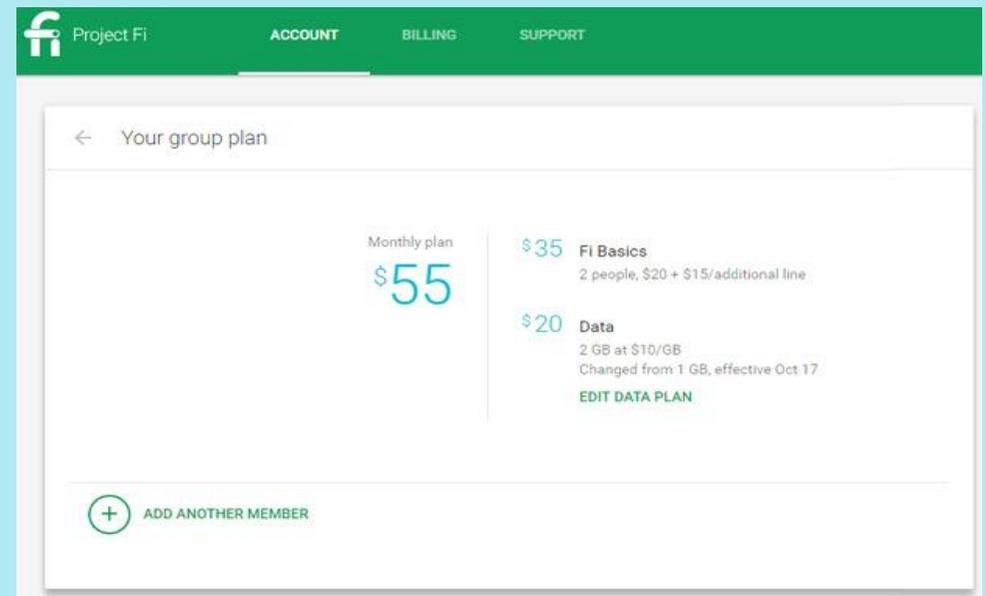


Project Fi isn't your average mobile phone carrier. That much was clear from the second I signed up for the service last fall. And now, after having personally used Fi for the better part of a year, I'm finding new ways it can make my life easier. Project Fi, if you aren't familiar, is Google's experimental wireless service for its own Nexus devices. It seamlessly switches your phone between a handful of networks -- Sprint, T-Mobile, and as of recently, U.S. Cellular -- to get you the best possible signal at any given time. It also taps into reliable public Wi-Fi networks (with its own layer of encryption in place) and uses those for your calls and data whenever it can. You pay only for the data you use each month -- at the same flat rate, even if you're roaming in a different country. It's an unusual arrangement that won't make sense for

everyone, but if you're anything like me and my family, it could end up saving you some serious moolah.

But hold the phone: There's more to Fi than just those basic benefits. Late last year, Google added an option for Fi subscribers to get data-only SIM cards that are tied to existing accounts. The idea is that you can pop a card into any SIM-supporting laptop or tablet and then get that device online at your same regular data rate, without any extra fees or complications.

Why Project Fi's new group plan is a no-brainer for families



Google's weird wireless service just keeps getting better. You've heard of Project Fi by now, right? It's an experimental cell plan from Google that works with Nexus and Pixel phones. In a nutshell, it seamlessly switches your phone between a handful of networks -- Sprint, T-Mobile, and U.S. Cellular -- to get you the best possible signal at any given time or place. It also taps into reliable public Wi-Fi networks (with its own layer of encryption in place) and uses those for your calls and data whenever it can. You pay only for the actual mobile data you use each month -- at the same flat rate, even if you're roaming in a different country. It's an unusual arrangement that won't make sense for everyone, but if you're anything like me and my family, it could end up simplifying your life and saving you some dough.

Rush your ideas to

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