



the *cher client*. You can run into problems with the old telephone wiring there. Sometimes a jumble of multicolored wires that cannot be easily redirected to other telephone connections. Inserting a T-type telephone plug somewhere in such a *prise téléphonique*: other parts of the wiring can be switched on or off. It is time consuming to trace all these wires, how did they do it? To simplify this search, [these diagrams](#) can be helpful: the official colour coding and connections. In reality you should not be surprised if someone in the past didn't know anything about these regs.

Back to basics: you only need two wires to connect everything: the two feeding telephone wires from the outside telecom world, usually gray and white. You can continue to use the existing wiring, but then you have to be careful when you receive both a low-frequency analog voice signal for your trusted *téléphone fixe* and also a separate digital high-frequency ADSL signal for internet. More about that later. High-frequency signal over simple telephone wires: it is important to ensure that all connections are in perfect condition. Old connections - the predecessor of the DTI - should be thoroughly cleaned, better yet: remove.

Unfortunately you cannot do much about the (lack of) maintenance of the telephone network outside. It is certainly not on France Télécom's / Orange's priority list in *la France profonde*. Telephone poles in horizontal position, sometimes for months. Orange's reaction: not a problem, your connection still works doesn't it? Or the connections inside a so called *Point de Concentration* ([grey box up there](#)) have seen better days (leakage problems). Not only disastrous for your ADSL signal but also for the quality of a simple voice connection.

Installing new wiring indoors or critically examining existing wiring, cleaning connections, removing vague wiring, helps also. For the sake of the quality of the ADSL signal, beware of hidden enemies. For a long time everyone in France had complete confidence in the T-plugs with a small [built-in ADSL filter](#). Intended to prevent telephone equipment from interfering with the ADSL signal. And please not more than one, only terminal number 1 (+ modem). Orange advises a maximum of three, because this type of plugs attenuates your ADSL signal.

A better solution, already standard procedures in the rest of the world: a separate adsl filter ([filtre maître](#)). Right at the beginning, where the telephone signal enters the house. If you wish (no DECT-phone set) you can use the existing telephone wiring via the "phone" output of that filter. Schematically [this model](#). Even more French telephone details, not always conducive to the quality of your ADSL signal. A separate test module is built into the modern DTI. A so-called RC module: a capacitor of 2.2 uF in series with a resistor of 20 kOhm. If requested, the Orange technical department would like to test the quality of your telephone connection, but then not be bothered by the wiring mess that might be attached to it indoors.

If you insert a T-plug or RJ45 plug into a modern DTI - depending on the model - then the France Télécom / Orange test equipment will only see that module as a load.

And so only the telephone wiring from your house to the local exchange gets tested. Nothing wrong with those [modern RC modules](#), they only have two wires. In old installations, however, an RC module with three connection wires has been in use for decades.

And in practice this third wire sometimes picks up interference signals from the wiring elsewhere, ADSL signal quality goes down or totally unusable in the worst case scenario. You better remove these old style modules, usually incorporated in the first telephone connection point. [Here a guide](#) how to tackle that. Just theory? No. The phone rings, the OH is faster, and not for the first time: Robert, it's for you, someone with internet problems: every now and then very slow or no connection at all. Already a year the same old song of a lousy internet connection. The Orange help desk, helpful as ever, had already advised him more than once to switch to a faster and much more expensive subscription. More speed? Then you'll have to pay for it. Not necessary: after removal of this infamous module *RC trois pattes* his internet speed was very fast (for those days), even a slightly higher download speed than promised in his internet basic subscription (*internet découverte*). The dinner afterwards was excellent, not too much wine, had to drive back 30 kilometers.

Since 2002 there has to be a separate *coffret de communication* inside the GTL (huge consumer unit) when installing a new electrical installation. From there a multi-media network into the house. Can be very simple - a few ordinary telephone cables to two connection points and some coaxial cables for the TV - or much more complicated. To get internet in all rooms, ethernet wiring is of course required. Several wiring diagrams can be found at the [Bis-Electric](#) website. [Legrand](#) gives us a glimpse into the interior of such a separate telecom box and at the website of [reseau-vdi](#) you'll find something about the [distribution of tv signals](#) and more [advanced communication](#) networks. Caveat: regulations always lag behind. For a 1 Gb connection you need all the four wirepairs in an ethernet cable. The special French regs, invented in the late nineties: two wirepairs are for internet/network (100 Mb), one for video and one for telephone. Extra wiring needed if you want to satisfy your Need for Speed.