

EMBARGOED UNTIL 00.01 27 AUGUST 2011

HOMEPHONECHOICES.CO.UK COMMENTS ON BT'S LATEST PRICE INCREASES

Michael Phillips, product director at Homephonechoices.co.uk commented:

“We are disappointed that BT is raising its prices on the heels of significant energy price hikes just a month ago. While BT’s price increases of ‘5% or less’ may be in line with inflation, it will prove very unpopular with households who are already feeling the pinch.

“This marks the 10th price rise from a major provider this year alone and it is inevitable that others will further add to this total. We welcome BT’s price freeze promises for 2012, mirroring a similar commitment from Sky, and we hope all providers follow suit in this regard.

“Anyone unhappy with these latest price increases and looking to switch should check what is available to them using an Ofcom-accredited price comparison site and avoid overlooking the smaller, niche home phone providers. There are some great deals to be had, for example, Primus currently offers the UK’s cheapest stand-alone line rental exclusively through Homephonechoices.co.uk starting at just £6.79 per month, making it half the price of other deals available from larger providers.

“For customers that want to stay with BT but still reduce their bills, the Line Rental Saver tariff will offer savings of over £55 against the increased line rental pricing for customers willing to pay the yearly cost in one lump sum. Customers should also consider bundling broadband, phone and TV services to make further savings and off-set the pain of these price rises”

Homephonechoices.co.uk’s top tips for beating home phone price hikes:

1. **Pay upfront:** Customers who wish to stay with BT should sign up to Line Rental Saver (costing £120), by paying upfront for 12 months this will knock at least £55 off your annual bill
2. **Consider your usage:** Make sure you are on the right calling plan for your needs, if you make frequent calls during the day and are not on an “Anytime” calling plan you should consider switching plans
3. **Mainly mobile?:** Mobile calling rates remain unaffected, with BT rates ranking as some of the cheapest in the market; if you call a lot of mobiles and are with BT, it may be worth staying put
4. **Compare deals:** If you are looking for a cheaper deal our Homephonechoices.co.uk exclusive offer with Primus Saver start from only £6.79 a month for line rental

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5. **The way you pay:** Make sure you are paying by Direct Debit, any other form of payment can add up to £5 onto your bill.

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About Homephonechoices.co.uk

Homephonechoices.co.uk was founded in March 2005 and the UK's only Ofcom accredited home phone comparison calculator.

It is the largest UK website offering comparisons of solus line rental and calls packages where consumers can search by postcode to check availability when comparing line rental prices, package costs and pence per minute call charges.

Comparison tables can be sorted and filtered to compare tariffs for calling landlines, mobile networks, and non-geographic numbers (0870 /0845). Each package has detailed supporting information on additional extras like minimum call charges, contract lengths and caller features (1571 / Caller display).

Established online brands including Confused.com, Comparethemarket.com and GoCompare.com rely on Homephonechoices.co.uk to power their homephone comparison services.

Homephonechoices.co.uk – *working hard to save you money*