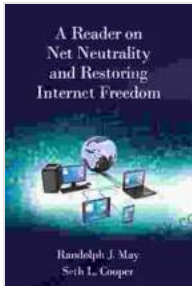


# Reader On Net Neutrality And Restoring Internet Freedom



## A Reader on Net Neutrality and Restoring Internet Freedom by Randolph J. May

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2162 KB  
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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
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Net neutrality is the principle that all internet traffic should be treated equally, regardless of its source, destination, or content. This means that internet service providers (ISPs) cannot block, throttle, or otherwise discriminate against specific websites or online applications. Net neutrality has been a key factor in the development of the internet as a platform for innovation and free expression.

## The History Of Net Neutrality

The concept of net neutrality has been around for decades. However, it was not until the early 2000s that it became a major policy issue. In 2005, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted a set of net neutrality rules that prohibited ISPs from blocking or throttling internet

traffic. These rules were overturned by a federal court in 2010, but the FCC reinstated them in 2015.

In 2017, the FCC repealed the net neutrality rules, arguing that they were unnecessary and harmful to the internet economy. This decision was met with widespread opposition from internet users, consumer groups, and technology companies. In 2018, a federal court struck down the FCC's repeal of net neutrality. However, the FCC has not yet reinstated the net neutrality rules.

### **The Impact Of Net Neutrality On Internet Freedom**

Net neutrality is essential for internet freedom. Without net neutrality, ISPs could discriminate against certain websites and online applications, making it difficult or impossible for people to access the information and services they need. This could lead to a less informed and less engaged citizenry, and it could stifle innovation and economic growth.

Net neutrality also protects freedom of speech. Without net neutrality, ISPs could censor certain types of content, such as political speech or religious speech. This could have a chilling effect on free expression and make it difficult for people to access information that is important to them.

### **The Ongoing Efforts To Restore Net Neutrality**

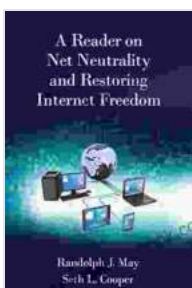
There are a number of ongoing efforts to restore net neutrality. These efforts include lawsuits, legislation, and regulatory action. In 2019, a group of states filed a lawsuit against the FCC, arguing that the repeal of net neutrality was unlawful. The lawsuit is still pending, but it is a major step in the effort to restore net neutrality.

There are also a number of bills in Congress that would restore net neutrality. These bills have bipartisan support, but they have not yet been passed into law. The Trump administration has opposed net neutrality, so it is unclear whether any of these bills will be passed.

The FCC could also take action to restore net neutrality. The FCC has the authority to regulate ISPs, and it could use this authority to reinstate the net neutrality rules. However, the FCC has not yet taken any action to restore net neutrality.

Net neutrality is essential for internet freedom. Without net neutrality, ISPs could discriminate against certain websites and online applications, making it difficult or impossible for people to access the information and services they need. This could lead to a less informed and less engaged citizenry, and it could stifle innovation and economic growth. Net neutrality also protects freedom of speech. Without net neutrality, ISPs could censor certain types of content, such as political speech or religious speech. This could have a chilling effect on free expression and make it difficult for people to access information that is important to them.

There are a number of ongoing efforts to restore net neutrality. These efforts include lawsuits, legislation, and regulatory action. It is unclear whether any of these efforts will be successful, but they represent an important step in the fight to protect internet freedom.



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