










Setting Up Free Internet Access with BlueLight

ShortGuides.com Tutorial Version 1.0

K-Mart and Yahoo have teamed up to provide free Internet access throughout the United States. This tutorial is a Step-by-Step guide to installing the software from a free CD that you can either pick up at your local K-Mart store or order by calling 1-888-945-9255. You can also download the software for free from the BlueLight website (bluelight.com). This ShortGuide does not cover downloading the software off of the Internet.

<p>When you insert the CD into your computer, you should see the following dialog box appear automatically. To begin installing the software, click on the phrase: <i>Click Here to Install BlueLight.com</i></p>	
<p>The installation process will begin with a dialog box advising you to close all of the programs that are currently running on your computer. I would agree with this recommendation. If you are currently running programs other than the install program, click on the <i>Cancel</i> button, remove the CD, close all your programs and insert the CD again. If you are not running other programs, simply click the <i>Next</i> button.</p>	
<p>In order to install the software, you will have to agree with the terms and conditions. Read through the terms and conditions. If you are satisfied with them (I am perfectly satisfied with the Terms), click in the <i>I Accept the Terms of Service</i> checkbox. Click the <i>Next</i> button to continue the process.</p>	
<p>You will then be asked to select a location into which the program will be installed. Simply click on the <i>Next</i> button (unless you are an expert user and would like to alter this location).</p> <p>The next dialog box that you will see will give you the opportunity to do a <i>Typical</i> or <i>Custom</i> install. Click on the <i>Typical</i> button.</p>	

<p>The installation process will begin. You will see a dialog box indicating the progress files being copied from the CD to your computer.</p>	
<p>The next dialog box will ask you whether you are new to the service or if you already have an existing ID. This tutorial deals with creating a new ID. If you have a free e-mail account through Yahoo, you can use that existing ID as your BlueLight.com ID. After selecting the choice that best suits your needs, click on the <i>Continue</i> button.</p>	
<p>The next dialog box will tell you what you can expect from the BlueLight.com service – free Internet Access, free e-mail, etc. Click on the <i>Next</i> button.</p> <p>The next window is again a Terms of Service dialog box. Select <i>Accept</i> and click on the <i>Next</i> button.</p>	
<p>The next two dialog boxes will ask you to enter information about yourself: name, address, gender, etc. This information is not optional. After you have entered your information, click on the <i>Next</i> button. There is a button which will allow you to review BlueLight.com's Privacy Policy. If you are concerned about entering your information, you should read their Policy.</p>	
<p>The next two dialog boxes asking for information about you are optional. The information here includes how many members of your household are under 18, your marital status, whether you rent or own your home and education completed, etc.</p>	
<p>Next, you will have to choose telephone numbers which are local for you. If you live in a relatively well populated area, chances are good that you will have a local number to choose from. However, it is always a good idea to contact your local telephone company to confirm that the numbers you will be dialing are truly free numbers from your area.</p>	

First, select your Area Code with the drop down menu presented. Then select the number that is local for you.

To select your Area Code, use the Drop-Down Menu. Likely, your area code is already showing, based on the answers you gave to the earlier questions.

Click on the *Next* button to continue.



You will also have to select a Backup Access Number. Follow the same procedure to select the Area Code and an appropriate phone number from the list that appears.



In order to complete the setup process, you will need to connect to BlueLight.com. To connect using the phone number that you selected in the last step, click on the *Next* button.

The modem will then dial and connect you to BlueLight.com, although the sign-up process isn't through yet.



Once connected, you will again be asked if you are a new Yahoo user, or if you have an existing account with Yahoo. This tutorial deals with creating a new ID. If you have a free e-mail account through Yahoo, you can use that existing ID as your BlueLight.com ID. After selecting the choice that best suits your needs, click on the *Next* button.



You will again have to accept the *Terms of Agreement*. To do that, select the *I Agree* radio button and click on the *Next* button.



To setup your Yahoo/BlueLight account, you will need to fill in the appropriate information, including: Your Name, Your Zip Code, Your Occupation and Your Industry. You must answer these questions to successfully create your account.



You will be given an opportunity to select a BlueLight.com ID and a password. Keep in mind that the ID you select will become a part of your e-mail address. For example, my BlueLight ID is **rtruxall**, so my e-mail account is **rtruxall@yahoo.com**. Three ID's will be suggested to you, usually based upon your name. You can select one of those ID's by clicking in the radio button next to name that you would like to use. Or, you can attempt to create a name of your very own. Often, people use some form of their name (such as **rtruxall**), or maybe a nickname. If you want to attempt to create your own ID, simply type the name in the white box provided, and click on the *Next* button.



Verly likely, the ID you chose is already taken. It can be a very difficult process, finding an ID that is available. If the ID you selected is already taken, which it probably is, then you will then be given the opportunity to enter another ID name. To enter a new ID, click on the *OK* button. You will then have to follow the same process as the step above, until you find an ID that is available. (Keep in mind, that it might take you numerous tries to find an ID that is available).



After you find your ID, you will be prompted to enter a Password question. The password question is a common method used to allow you access to your account, even if you have forgotten your password. This is a very handy tool, since forgetting or losing passwords is a very easy thing to do.



First, use the drop-down menu to select the Password Question. In the example on the right, I have chosen to you my *City of Birth* as my password question. You will also have to enter your birthdate. If you forget your password, you will be asked the Password Question and your date of birth. If you can answer both questions correctly, you will be given access to your account and the ability to enter a new password for the account.

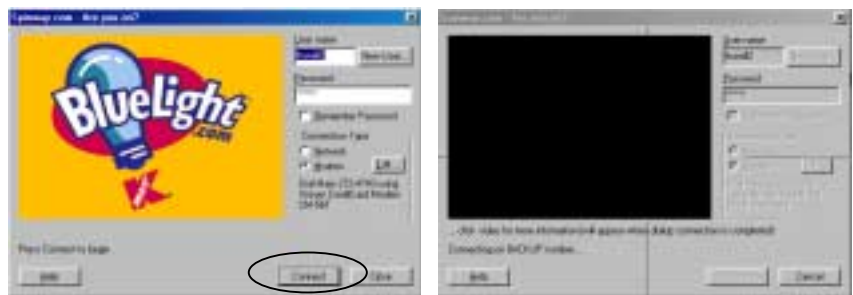
After all of that, your account will be created (!). Keep in mind that I did not guarantee that this would be a short process, but it is FREE access to the Internet, after all. Once your account is setup, you will have a dialog box telling you that the process was successful.

Click on the *Next* button to continue.



You will now see the Connect Dialog box. To connect to the Internet, simply click on the *Connect* button.

While you are being connected, you will see a short advertisement video for K-Mart... again, you are getting free access to the Internet!



Once you are connected to the Internet, you will automatically be taken to the *My Yahoo* website. From here, you can browse the web, use your Yahoo e-mail, etc. Notice, however, that you now have an advertisement bar across the bottom of your screen. Access to the Internet through BlueLight.com is not different than any other dial-up access to the Internet, except for the advertisement bar at the bottom of your screen.



Once you are through the installation process, you will have a new icon on your desktop. From this point on, to connect to the Internet, all you need to do is double-click the *BlueLight.com* icon, and you will be taken to the *Connection dialog box*, as shown above. To connect to the Internet, click on the *Connect* button. (You may need to fill in your username and password, as well).



Do you have comments, thoughts or suggestions about this ShortGuide? Send them to Comments@ShortGuides.com or call 1-877-805-1431. Your input is greatly appreciated!

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Richard has presented Internet and Computer seminars throughout Michigan since 1992. His goal is always to help his seminar participants get the most benefit from their computers and the Internet by explaining technology in realistic and understandable terms. In 1995, Richard was fortunate to help with the initial development of the internationally acclaimed Internet Public Library (ipl.org), which continues to be an extremely useful tool. In addition to starting his own training and consulting company (Richard Truxall Seminars & Consulting), he also works as the Collection Librarian for the Michigan section of the Michigan Electronic Library (mel.org). Richard is available for technology seminars, workshops and consulting. For more information about Richard, visit his web site at truxall.com.

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