

## Re: Dial up vs. cable questions

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>Can you use ad blockers or does that kill the functionality? I remember  
>there was a free internet service several years ago which had it's own  
>special software that connected and displayed ads. The thing I (and  
>apparently many others) discovered is that once you signed up with their  
>software, you could uninstall it and put the phone number and login info  
>right into a Windows dialup networking thing and connect that way with no  
>ads. They didn't last long...

>

Ad blockers – yes – But you must use their dialer program, no cheating there.

I think I tried all the free ISPs also as they came & went.

I use Privoxy now <http://www.privoxy.org/> & Junkbusters before that. It will stop most of the mess. As I remember NetZero always wants to go to its homepage which is very cluttered. I would minimize or close that window & be on my merry way but still missing the top of my screen which has the ad bar. & they make it quite obnoxious! & still get some pop-ups. It is still usable & good for emergencies.

I also have IP Cop <http://www.ipcop.org> on another computer (AMD5x86) as a firewall (yeah on a dialup). It has a web proxy server which makes repeated visits to a web page lots faster on a dialup.

The OP could investigate both these ideas if he so desired. Neither is essential for a novice, just accessories that are nice.