

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____

ExpressVPN Review

Reviewing BVI-headquartered ExpressVPN, proprietary Lightway protocol, RAM-only TrustedServer technology, audited zero-logs setups, and Network Lock kill switch.

EXPRESSVPN REVIEW LEARNING OVERVIEW

LEARNER

STUDENT STATUS

Network Defender Track

SECURE

CONNECTION STATUS

Shielding data packets

100%

LEAK DEFENSE

DNS & IPv6 leak protection

Welcome! This activity packet guides you through the technical review of ExpressVPN. You will explore Caribbean BVI jurisdictions, proprietary Lightway protocols, RAM-only TrustedServers, and Network Lock kill switches.

WORKSHEET CHECKPOINTS

- ☐ **Part 1-4:** Master VPN and network security configurations.
- ☐ **Part 5-7:** Solve crossword & word search puzzles.
- ☐ **Part 8-9:** Solve case studies & cipher challenge.
- ☐ **Part 10:** Review basic & advanced FAQ pages.
- ☐ **Part 11:** Explore 10 interesting real-world facts.

Open the VPN.com Best VPNs Guide

URL: <https://www.vpn.com/vpn/expressvpn/>

Your ExpressVPN Learning Roadmap

- Analyze the proprietary Lightway protocol and its speed/connection benefits.
- Evaluate TrustedServer technology utilizing RAM-only configurations to prevent data capture.
- Investigate the British Virgin Islands (BVI) legal jurisdiction and local privacy protections.
- Configure Network Lock to block all network traffic during VPN dropouts.
- Examine independent audits conducted by PwC and Cure53 on server networks.

EXPRESSVPN REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS

Answer the multiple choice and true/false questions, complete the fill-in-the-blank sentences using the word bank, match definitions, and solve the crossword and word search puzzles. Apply your knowledge to RAM-only TrustedServer and Lightway protocol.

LIGHTWAY OPEN-SOURCE PROTOCOL & TRUSTEDSERVER RAM NODES (INTRODUCTION)

ExpressVPN is incorporated in the British Virgin Islands (BVI) data haven. It features the proprietary open-source Lightway protocol and RAM-only TrustedServer technology to ensure no session logs can be stored or recovered.

READ EACH CHECKPOINT CAREFULLY AND SELECT OR WRITE THE CORRECT RESPONSE.

Checkpoint 1: Multiple Choice Challenge

1 Where is ExpressVPN officially incorporated?

- ☐ A) British Virgin Islands
- ☐ B) Cayman Islands
- ☐ C) Switzerland
- ☐ D) Gibraltar

2 What proprietary protocol was built by ExpressVPN to replace legacy protocols?

- ☐ A) Lightway Protocol
- ☐ B) WireGuard
- ☐ C) OpenWeb
- ☐ D) Mimic

3 What is the name of ExpressVPN's RAM-only server system that writes zero data to hard drives?

- ☐ A) TrustedServer
- ☐ B) NoSpy Servers
- ☐ C) Secure Core
- ☐ D) RAMVault

4 What is the name of the desktop kill switch feature in ExpressVPN?

- ☐ A) Network Lock
- ☐ B) KillSwitch
- ☐ C) Threat Manager
- ☐ D) Secure Lock

5 Which security firm audited ExpressVPN's Lightway protocol and server setup?

- ☐ A) Cure53
- ☐ B) Deloitte
- ☐ C) KPMG
- ☐ D) EY

Checkpoint 2: True or False Challenge

6 Question 6

The British Virgin Islands has a separate legal system with no mandatory data storage laws.

☐ True ☐ False

7 Question 7

Lightway protocol is open-source, allowing anyone to inspect its core code.

☐ True ☐ False

8 Question 8

TrustedServer systems write backup log files to local hard drives once a day.

☐ True ☐ False

9 Question 9

Network Lock is designed to prevent IP leaks by blocking traffic if the VPN drops.

☐ True ☐ False

10 Question 10

ExpressVPN has never undergone any third-party audits of its zero-logs policy.

☐ True ☐ False

Checkpoint 3: Key Term Insertion

Read each sentence below and fill in the blank with the correct term from the Word Bank.

1. ExpressVPN developed the custom _____ to optimize battery life and speed. _____
2. The RAM-only server deployment architecture is known as _____. _____
3. Every server operates using _____ systems to prevent writing session logs to disk. _____
4. The built-in kill switch feature is officially named _____. _____
5. To block trackers and advertising trackers, the client uses _____. _____
6. The legal company incorporation is located in the Caribbean territory of _____. _____

VOCABULARY WORD BANK

Lightway Protocol
Threat Manager

Trusted Server
BVI

RAM Only
No Logs Policy

Network Lock
Audited System

Write your answers here:

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|----------------------|
| 1. | <input type="text"/> | 2. | <input type="text"/> |
| 3. | <input type="text"/> | 4. | <input type="text"/> |
| 5. | <input type="text"/> | 6. | <input type="text"/> |

Checkpoint 4: VPN & Network Concept Match

DEFINITION MATCHING

Match each vocabulary term on the left with its correct definition on the right by writing the corresponding letter (A-H) in the fillable input box.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="text"/> Lightway Protocol | C Server setup that wipes all data upon reboot. |
| <input type="text"/> Trusted Server | G Audited standard storing zero connection logs. |
| <input type="text"/> RAM Only | H Verification state validated by PwC/Cure53. |
| <input type="text"/> Network Lock | E DNS tool blocking tracker connections. |
| <input type="text"/> Threat Manager | A ExpressVPN's custom open-source protocol. |
| <input type="text"/> BVI | D Proprietary name for client kill switch. |
| <input type="text"/> No Logs Policy | B RAM-only server system deployment name. |
| <input type="text"/> Audited System | F Caribbean island nation jurisdiction abbreviation. |

Checkpoint 5: Crossword Puzzle

Solve the crossword puzzle by typing letters into the active white boxes. The numbers correspond to the clues below.



ACROSS

1. Process of wrapping data packets inside other packets (9)
4. Remote server that routes traffic and hides your IP (6)
8. Internet Service Provider, logs traffic unless encrypted (3)

DOWN

2. Rules determining how data is sent and encrypted (8)
3. Rate of data transfer across a path (9)
5. Blocking site access based on location (8)
6. Security system that monitors and blocks traffic (8)
7. State of being free from tracking or surveillance (7)

Checkpoint 5 Alternative: Accessible Crossword Clues

Screen-reader and keyboard users can type the crossword answers directly in the text fields below.

ACROSS CLUES

1 Across: ExpressVPN's custom open-source protocol. (16 letters):

3 Across: Server setup that wipes all data upon reboot. (7 letters):

5 Across: DNS tool blocking tracker connections. (13 letters):

7 Across: Audited standard storing zero connection logs. (12 letters):

DOWN CLUES

2 Down: RAM-only server system deployment name. (13 letters):

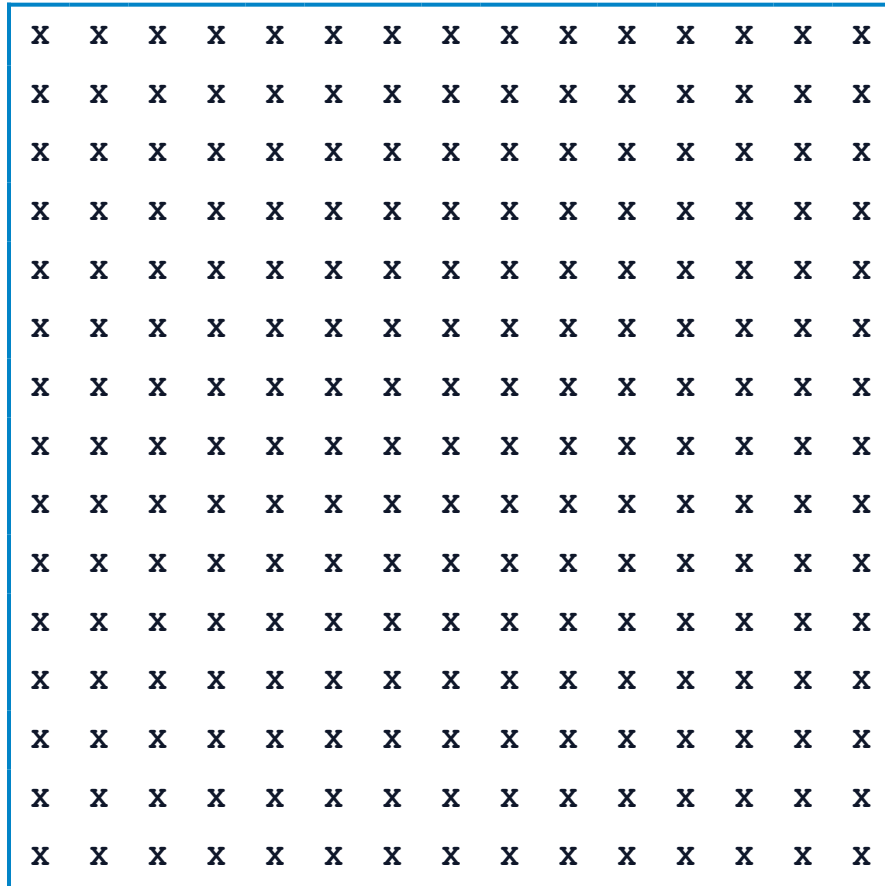
4 Down: Proprietary name for client kill switch. (11 letters):

6 Down: Caribbean island nation jurisdiction abbreviation. (3 letters):

8 Down: Verification state validated by PwC/Cure53. (13 letters):

Checkpoint 6: Hidden Word Search

Find the 8 key vocabulary terms hidden in the grid below. Words can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal.



VOCABULARY WORD LIST

Lightway Protocol
Threat Manager

Trusted Server
BVI

RAM Only
No Logs Policy

Network Lock
Audited System

Checkpoint 6 Alternative: Accessible Vocabulary Matching

Match each of the 8 vocabulary terms from the Word Search to its correct definition by writing the letter (A-H) in the blank space.

VOCABULARY TERMS

- A. Lightway Protocol
- B. Trusted Server
- C. RAM Only
- D. Network Lock
- E. Threat Manager
- F. BVI
- G. No Logs Policy
- H. Audited System

DEFINITIONS & MATCH FIELDS

- 1. Proprietary open-source high-performance tunnel protocol.
- 2. RAM-only server system deployment preventing data logs.
- 3. Storage architecture wiping all logs immediately on reboot.
- 4. Proprietary system kill switch cutting connection on drops.
- 5. DNS blocklist system preventing tracker host links.
- 6. British Virgin Islands jurisdiction outside foreign surveillance.
- 7. Strict policy validated by PwC and Cure53 reviews.
- 8. Verified client and backend infrastructure state.

Checkpoint 7: Scrambled Word Challenge

Unscramble the letters below to reveal key Virtual Private Network (VPN) concepts and terms. Write your answers in the input boxes provided.

1. O I O P Y T R G W L O A H L C T

5. T R R A H A G A E E M N T

2. E S S T U D T E V R E R R

6. I V B

3. O A Y M L N R

7. L O S I C O N G Y P O L

4. K T K O C R L O W N E

8. D E Y D A S T M T I E S U

Checkpoint 8: VPN & Network Case Studies

Apply the concepts you have learned to solve the real-world scenarios below.



CASE STUDY 1: RAM PROTECTION

Scenario: A data center housing ExpressVPN servers is seized by local authorities. The authorities power down the server rigs and extract the hard drives to find user logs.

Discussion Question: What information will the authorities retrieve from the extracted hard drives?



CASE STUDY 2: MOBILE BATTERY LOSS

Scenario: A mobile user connects to OpenVPN on their smartphone but notices high battery drain and frequent reconnection delays when switching between cellular and Wi-Fi networks.

Discussion Question: Which protocol setting in the ExpressVPN app should the user choose to improve battery life?

Final Challenge: Decrypting the Cipher

A network engineer secures routing channels and client tunnels. Use the Letter-to-Number key below to decrypt the message by writing the matching letters in the blank spaces.

LETTER-TO-NUMBER ENCRYPTION KEY

A=1	B=2	C=3	D=4	E=5	F=6	G=7	H=8	I=9	J=10	K=11	L=12	M=13
N=14	O=15	P=16	Q=17	R=18	S=19	T=20	U=21	V=22	W=23	X=24	Y=25	Z=26

20	18	21	19	20	5	4	19	5	18	22	5	18	18	1	13
15	14	12	25	20	5	3	8	14	15	12	15	7	25		
16	18	15	20	5	3	20	19	21	19	5	18				
19	5	19	19	9	15	14	19								

Decoded cybersecurity message:

TIP: EACH NUMBER REPRESENTS THE POSITION OF THAT LETTER IN THE ALPHABET (E.G. 1 = A, 2 = B, 26 = Z).

Checkpoint 10: Basic VPN FAQs (Part A)

Review the most common questions and answers regarding Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) and tunneling.

Q1: What is ExpressVPN?

A premium VPN service known for strong security, fast speeds, and wide server distribution.

Q2: Where is ExpressVPN based?

It is officially headquartered and incorporated in the British Virgin Islands (BVI).

Q3: What is Lightway?

A proprietary, open-source VPN protocol built by ExpressVPN for better speed and stability.

Q4: What is TrustedServer technology?

ExpressVPN's server system where servers run entirely in RAM, never writing data to disk.

Q5: Does ExpressVPN keep log files?

No, they operate a strict no-logs policy validated by third-party security audits.

Checkpoint 10: Basic VPN FAQs (Part B)

Review the most common questions and answers regarding Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) and tunneling.

Q6: What is Network Lock?

ExpressVPN's custom kill switch that cuts internet access if the VPN connection drops.

Q7: How many devices can I connect to ExpressVPN?

It allows connecting up to eight devices simultaneously under a single subscription.

Q8: Does ExpressVPN work on routers?

Yes, they provide custom router firmware that encrypts all connected home devices.

Q9: What is Threat Manager?

A DNS filtering feature that blocks trackers and malicious domains from loading.

Q10: Is ExpressVPN open-source?

While the client apps are mostly proprietary, their core Lightway protocol is open-source.

Checkpoint 11: Advanced VPN FAQs (Part A)

Explore advanced technical aspects of VPN tunneling protocols, mobile client integrations, and enterprise deployment.

Q1: How does RAM-only deployment protect server infrastructure?

RAM requires power to hold data; when a server reboots or loses power, all data and operating configurations are erased instantly.

Q2: What makes BVI jurisdiction strong for data privacy?

The BVI operates under its own laws, has no mandatory retention rules, and is outside the jurisdiction of major western courts.

Q3: How does Lightway improve connection times on mobile?

Lightway uses a lightweight codebase of only a few thousand lines and supports UDP/TCP fast session resumption.

Q4: Who audited ExpressVPN's server security systems?

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) audited their setup, and Cure53 conducted detailed code audits of their software.

Q5: How does split tunneling operate on the ExpressVPN router app?

Users can group connected devices and select which groups route traffic through the VPN and which use normal ISP routing.

Checkpoint 11: Advanced VPN FAQs (Part B)

Explore advanced technical aspects of VPN tunneling protocols, mobile client integrations, and enterprise deployment.

Q6: Does ExpressVPN prevent IPv6 leaks?

Yes, the client blocks IPv6 traffic by default or routes it through the VPN tunnel to prevent leaks.

Q7: What is the function of the Aircove router?

A hardware Wi-Fi router developed by ExpressVPN with built-in VPN protection features.

Q8: How does ExpressVPN bypass VPN blocks in restrictive nations?

By automatically enabling obfuscation features on server nodes when VPN blocks are detected.

Q9: Does ExpressVPN support key rotation?

Yes, Lightway protocol rotates cryptographic keys every few minutes to maintain perfect forward secrecy.

Q10: What is the cost of ExpressVPN?

It is priced higher than standard VPNs, costing around twelve dollars per month on annual plans.

Part 11: 10 Real-World VPN Facts & Insights

Review real-world facts regarding VPN encryption speeds, protocol audits, mobile connectivity, and enterprise remote work.

1. VPN INSIGHT

ExpressVPN is incorporated in the British Virgin Islands (BVI), which does not enforce any mandatory data logs.

2. VPN INSIGHT

Lightway is a custom open-source protocol built by ExpressVPN to deliver faster speeds and save battery.

3. VPN INSIGHT

All server nodes operate on TrustedServer technology, utilizing RAM-only hardware to prevent writing data to disk.

4. VPN INSIGHT

Network Lock is ExpressVPN's proprietary kill switch that blocks internet traffic during connection drops.

5. VPN INSIGHT

Security audits by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and Cure53 have verified ExpressVPN's no-logs configurations.

6. VPN INSIGHT

Threat Manager is a built-in feature that blocks communication with known trackers and malicious websites.

7. VPN INSIGHT

ExpressVPN allows users to connect up to eight devices simultaneously under a single premium account.

8. VPN INSIGHT

Aircove is a physical Wi-Fi router built by ExpressVPN that secures all home network devices out of the box.

9. VPN INSIGHT

The client apps protect users against WebRTC, IPv6, and DNS leaks by routing all requests privately.

10. VPN INSIGHT

Lightway uses wolfSSL cryptography, which has been independently audited for security vulnerabilities.

Technical References & Sources

The study guide and interactive puzzles are compiled from global technical standards, specifications, and regulatory frameworks.

SCHOLARLY & INDUSTRY REFERENCES

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Answer Key: Checkpoint 1 - Multiple Choice

1 BVI Haven

BVI

Correct Answer: A

TEACHING NOTE

ExpressVPN is incorporated in the British Virgin Islands (BVI).
Citation: ExpressVPN Support [Ref 8].

2 Lightway Protocol

LIGHTWAY

Correct Answer: A

TEACHING NOTE

Lightway protocol is open-source and optimized for fast connections.
Citation: ExpressVPN Features [Ref 2].

3 TrustedServer RAM

TRUSTEDSERVER

Correct Answer: A

TEACHING NOTE

TrustedServer writes zero data to disk, running entirely in RAM.
Citation: ExpressVPN Features [Ref 7].

4 Network Lock

KILL SWITCH

Correct Answer: A

TEACHING NOTE

Network Lock blocks internet traffic if the VPN connection drops.
Citation: ExpressVPN Features [Ref 6].

5 Cure53 Audit

AUDITED SYSTEM

Correct Answer: A

TEACHING NOTE

Independent audits by PwC and Cure53 verify no-logs databases.
Citation: ExpressVPN Support [Ref 8].

Answer Key: Checkpoint 2 - True or False

6 BVI
Haven

BVI LAWS

Correct Answer: True

TEACHING NOTE

BVI has no mandatory data storage laws and a separate legal system.

Citation: ExpressVPN Support [Ref 8].

7 Lightway
Open

OPEN-SOURCE

Correct Answer: True

TEACHING NOTE

Lightway protocol is open-source, allowing public code inspections.

Citation: ExpressVPN Features [Ref 2].

8 TrustedServer

RAM
NODES

Correct Answer: False

TEACHING NOTE

TrustedServer writes zero data to hard disk, running only in RAM.

Citation: ExpressVPN Features [Ref 7].

9 Network
Lock

KILL SWITCH

Correct Answer: True

TEACHING NOTE

Network Lock blocks all system internet during connection drops.

Citation: ExpressVPN Features [Ref 6].

10 Deloitte
Audit

AUDITED SYSTEM

Correct Answer: False

TEACHING NOTE

Deloitte and PwC security audits verify zero logs infrastructure.

Citation: ExpressVPN Support [Ref 8].

Vocabulary Keys & Grading Rubric

Instructor Grading Rubric: Award 1 point for each correct matching (8 points total) and context term (6 points total).

CHECKPOINT 4: CONCEPT MATCH KEY

A Lightway Protocol

B Trusted Server

C RAM Only

D Network Lock

E Threat Manager

F BVI

G No Logs Policy

H Audited System

CHECKPOINT 3: KEY TERM KEY

1 Lightway Protocol

2 Trusted Server

3 RAM Only

4 Network Lock

5 Threat Manager

6 BVI

DISCUSSION NOTES FOR INSTRUCTORS

Valuation Accuracy:

Verify that students understand how domain length, extension (.com, .ai), and commercial search volume drive appraisal pricing.

Escrow Security:

Emphasize that funds are held in licensed third-party holding accounts prior to domain WHOIS transfer verification.

Stealth Representation:

Highlight the role of NDAs and third-party representation in preventing speculative price gouging during corporate procurement.

Puzzles Keys & Instructor Notes

WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

[illegible]

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

[illegible]

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE FOR CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS CLUES

1 Across: **TUNNELING** Process of wrapping data packets. (3, 5)

4 Across: **SERVER** Remote computer routing traffic.

8 Across: **ISP** Internet Service Provider. (1, 9)

DOWN CLUES

2 Down: **PROTOCOL** Rules determining data transmission. (0, 5)

3 Down: BANDWIDTH Rate of data transfer. (1, 7)

5 Down: **GEOBLOCK** Location website restriction.

6 Down: **FIREWALL** Security monitor barrier. (0, 9)

7 Down: **PRIVACY** State of freedom from tracking.
(1, 11)

Scrambled Words & Cipher Solution Key

Grading key for the vocabulary word unscramble activity and Secret Cipher Challenge.

WORD UNSCRAMBLE KEY

1. O I O P Y T R G W L O A H L C T

Lightway Protocol

5. T R R A H A G A E E M N T

Threat Manager

2. E S S T U D T E V R E R R

Trusted Server

6. I V B

BVI

3. O A Y M L N R

RAM Only

7. L O S I C O N G Y P O L

No Logs Policy

4. K T K O C R L O W N E

Network Lock

8. D E Y D A S T M T I E S U

Audited System

SECRET CIPHER CHALLENGE KEY

"TRUSTEDSERVER RAM ONLY TECHNOLOGY PROTECTS
USER SESSIONS"

VPN & Network Case Studies Solution Key

A Case Study 1: RAM Protectic

[Instructor Solution](#)

GRADING GUIDELINE

Student answers should cover the following points:

- **Scenario Analysis:** A data center housing ExpressVPN servers is seized by local authorities. The authorities power down the server rigs and extract the hard drives to find user logs.
- **Recommended Strategy & Solution:** Nothing, because TrustedServer configurations run on RAM-only nodes which wipe all data immediately upon losing power.

B Case Study 2: Mobile Battery Lo:

[Instructor Solution](#)

GRADING GUIDELINE

Student answers should cover the following points:

- **Scenario Analysis:** A mobile user connects to OpenVPN on their smartphone but notices high battery drain and frequent reconnection delays when switching between cellular and Wi-Fi networks.
- **Recommended Strategy & Solution:** The user should switch to the Lightway protocol, which is optimized for quick reconnections and low power usage.