

1. Look in your router's documentation and find your router's default IP address. Write it down here: _____._____._____._____.
 - Did you change it? Write the new one down here:
_____.
2. Many routers ship with no admin password or a default password like "password." THIS MUST BE CHANGED BEFORE YOU CONTINUE! Change your router's default admin password. Write the new password down here: _____
3. All routers ship with a default SSID. This is the name that the router will advertise for its wireless network. You should change this name. Pick a new one and write it down here: _____
 - *Optional:* Check here if you disabled SSID broadcast: _____
4. Turn on encryption. This scrambles traffic between your WiFi-enabled computers and the wireless router. Check which standard you used:
 - ___ WEP (If this is your only option, buy a new router!)
 - ___ WPA-PSK
 - ___ WPA2-PSK (TKIP)
 - ___ WPA2-PSK (AES) (this is best, but not all adapters can use it)
 - ___ Other: _____
5. Set a passphrase (Pre-Shared Key for connecting to your wireless router and write it down here: _____
6. Turn on MAC address filtering. You'll need the MAC addresses of all the WiFi-enabled devices you wish to connect to your wireless router. (You don't need the MAC addresses for devices you physically plug into the router in most cases.) Write down the name of each device and its MAC address here:
 - Name: _____ MAC address: ___:___:___:___:___:___
 - Name: _____ MAC address: ___:___:___:___:___:___
 - Name: _____ MAC address: ___:___:___:___:___:___
 - Name: _____ MAC address: ___:___:___:___:___:___
 - Name: _____ MAC address: ___:___:___:___:___:___

7. Count how many devices you wrote down in the above list as well as how many devices are physically plugged into the router. Write that number here: _____. This is how many IP addresses you need to allow the DHCP server in your router to hand out. Write down the IP range below:
- Starting IP address: _____._____._____._____
 - Ending IP address: _____._____._____._____
8. (*Recommended*) Configure your router to use OpenDNS servers.
- Primary DNS: 208.67.222.222
 - Secondary DNS: 208.67.220.220
 - Create an account at <http://www.opendns.com> to configure filtering options. Login:_____ Password:_____
9. Does your router have a firewall? ____ Yes ____ No
- If so, check here once you have enabled it: _____
10. Check here when you have disabled the DMZ: _____
11. Check here when you have disabled UPnP: _____
12. Check here when you have disabled remote management: _____
13. Check here when you have disabled "Respond to ICMP Ping": _____
14. (*Airport users only*) Check here when you have disabled NAT-PMP: _____
15. Check here when you have backed up your settings: _____

Firmware upgrades:

Occasionally router manufacturers will release upgrades to the firmware that runs on your router. Some routers can check for new firmware on their own, while others require you to go to the manufacturer's website to check for firmware upgrades. While it is important to keep your router's firmware up to date, it is equally important to realize that a failed firmware update can render your router inoperable. Here are a few tips:

1. Log into your router's administrative interface from a computer *physically connected to the router* and perform a backup of its settings.
 - Do not attempt to perform a firmware upgrade from a wireless connection. Doing so will render your router inoperable.
2. Note your router's model number and revision (usually on a label on the underside of the router) here: _____
3. Note your router's current firmware revision number here: _____
4. Check to see if there is a firmware upgrade available.
5. Follow your manufacturer's instructions to apply the upgrade.
6. Re-check your wireless router's settings using your notes from this worksheet to make sure all your security measures are still in place.

Router manufacturer support sites:

(Note: when seeking technical support for your home networking equipment, make sure you know the model number as well as the revision number. Differences in revisions make a difference in features and capabilities, even among devices with the same model number. Most support sites can help you find this information.)

- Linksys/Cisco: www.linksys.com/support
- Netgear: www.netgear.com/support
- D-Link: www.dlink.com/support
- 2Wire (AT&T/SBC): www.2wire.com/?p=72
- Belkin: www.belkin.com/support
- Hawking: www.hawkingtech.com/support/
- Apple: www.apple.com/support/airport/
- Buffalo: www.buffalotech.com/support/
- Motorola: www.motorola.com/support
- Zoom: www.zoom.com/techsupport/

How to find your wireless adapter's MAC address:

Some computers will have the wireless adapter's MAC address printed on a label on the outside of the system. If you can find this label, jot down the MAC address and you're good to go! If not, read on...

Windows PCs:

1. Click the Start menu and select "Run..."
2. Under "Type the name of a program, folder, document, or Internet resource, and Windows will open it for you," type "cmd" and hit OK.
3. At the C:\> prompt, type "ipconfig /all" without the quotes.
4. Look for your wireless adapter in the list that scrolls by. (You may have to scroll up to find it.) Don't get it confused with your wired network adapter! They have different MAC addresses, and it does make a difference.
5. Write down your wireless adapter's MAC address, making sure to substitute colons for dashes.

Mac OS X:

The easy version:

1. Click on the blue Apple menu and select "About This Macintosh."
2. Click the "More Info..." button. This will launch the Apple System Profiler.
3. On the left hand side of the screen, click the word "Network."
4. In the pane on the upper right hand side of the screen, click on "Airport."
5. In the pane on the lower right hand side of the screen, find your Airport card's MAC address and jot it down.