

Chapter 2: Planning Your Wireless Network

Network Topology

A wireless local area network (WLAN) is exactly like a regular local area network (LAN), except that each computer in the WLAN uses a wireless device to connect to the network. Computers in a WLAN share the same frequency channel and SSID, which is an identification name shared by the wireless devices belonging to the same wireless network.

ssid (service set identifier): your wireless network's name.

Ad-Hoc versus Infrastructure Mode

Unlike wired networks, wireless networks have two different modes in which they may be set up: infrastructure and ad-hoc. An infrastructure configuration is a WLAN and wired LAN communicating to each other through an access point. An ad-hoc configuration is wireless-equipped computers communicating directly with each other. Choosing between these two modes depends on whether or not the wireless network needs to share data or peripherals with a wired network or not.

infrastructure: a wireless network that is bridged to a wired network via an access point.

If the computers on the wireless network need to be accessible by a wired network or need to share a peripheral, such as a printer, with the wired network computers, the wireless network should be set up in Infrastructure mode. The basis of Infrastructure mode centers around a wireless router or an access point, such as the Wireless-G Broadband Router, which serves as the main point of communications in a wireless network. The Router transmits data to PCs equipped with wireless network adapters, which can roam within a certain radial range of the Router. You can arrange the Router and multiple access points to work in succession to extend the roaming range, and you can set up your wireless network to communicate with your Ethernet hardware as well.

ad-hoc: a group of wireless devices communicating directly to each other (peer-to-peer) without the use of an access point.

If the wireless network is relatively small and needs to share resources only with the other computers on the wireless network, then the Ad-Hoc mode can be used. Ad-Hoc mode allows computers equipped with wireless transmitters and receivers to communicate directly with each other, eliminating the need for a wireless router or access point. The drawback of this mode is that in Ad-Hoc mode, wireless-equipped computers are not able to communicate with computers on a wired network. And, of course, communication between the wireless-equipped computers is limited by the distance and interference directly between them.

Network Layout

The Wireless-G Broadband Router has been specifically designed for use with both your 802.11b and 802.11g products. Now, products using these standards can communicate with each other.

Wireless-G Broadband Router

The Wireless-G Broadband Router is compatible with all 802.11b and 802.11g adapters, such as the Notebook Adapters (WPC54G, WPC11) for your laptop computers, PCI Adapter (WMP54G, WMP11) for your desktop PC, and USB Adapter (WUSB54G, WUSB11) when you want to enjoy USB connectivity. The Broadband Router will also communicate with the Wireless PrintServer (WPS54G) and Wireless Ethernet Bridges (WET54G, WET11).

When you wish to connect your wireless network with your wired network, you can use the Wireless-G Broadband Router's four LAN ports. To add more ports, any of the Wireless-G Broadband Router's LAN ports can be connected to any of Linksys's switches (such as the SD205 or SD208).

With these, and many other, Linksys products, your networking options are limitless. Go to the Linksys website at www.linksys.com for more information about products that work with the Wireless-G Broadband Router.

Chapter 3: Getting to Know the Wireless-G Broadband Router

The Back Panel

The Router's ports, where the cables are connected, are located on the back panel.

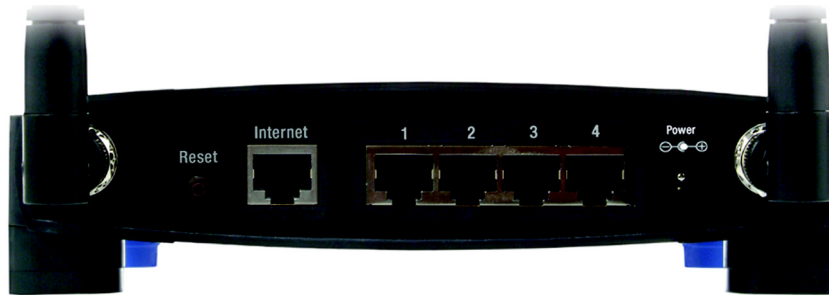


Figure 3-1: The Router's Back Panel

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Reset Button | There are two ways to reset the Router's factory defaults. Either press the Reset Button , for approximately five seconds, or restore the defaults from the Administration tab - Factory Defaults in the Router's Web-based Utility. |
| Internet | The Internet port is where you will connect your broadband Internet connection. |
| 1, 2, 3, 4 | These ports (1, 2, 3, 4) connect the Router to your networked PCs and other Ethernet network devices. |
| Power | The Power port is where you will connect the power adapter. |



IMPORTANT: Resetting the Router will erase all of your settings (Internet connection, wireless security, and other settings) and replace them with the factory defaults. Do not reset the Router if you want to retain these settings.

The Front Panel

The Router's SecureEasySetup button (the Cisco logo) and LEDs are located on the front panel.

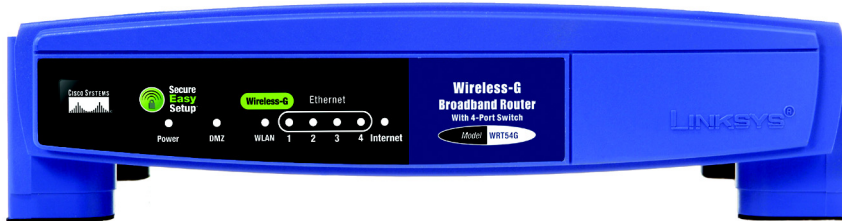


Figure 3-2: The Router's Front Panel

(Cisco logo)

Orange/White. The Cisco logo is the Router's SecureEasySetup button. It lights up and will stay orange when the Router is powered on. The color orange indicates that the Router is not using the SecureEasySetup feature, while the color white indicates that the Router is using the SecureEasySetup feature. When the Router enters SecureEasySetup mode, the Cisco logo will turn white and start flashing. After the Router has generated the SSID and WPA-PSK (also called WPA-Personal) key, the Cisco logo will stop flashing and stay white.



NOTE: SecureEasySetup is a feature that makes it easy to set up your wireless network. If you have SecureEasySetup devices, run the Router's Setup Wizard CD-ROM and follow the on-screen instructions to use SecureEasySetup.

To clear the SSID and WPA-PSK key, press and hold down the Cisco logo for five seconds. The Cisco logo will flash slowly as the Router resets itself. The Cisco logo will turn orange to indicate a successful reset.

Power

Green. The **Power** LED lights up and will stay on while the Router is powered on. When the Router goes through its self-diagnostic mode during every boot-up, this LED will flash. When the diagnostic is complete, the LED will be solidly lit.

DMZ

Green. The **DMZ** LED indicates when the DMZ function is being used. This LED will remain lit as long as DMZ is enabled.

WLAN

Green. The **WLAN** LED lights up whenever there is a successful wireless connection. If the LED is flashing, the Router is actively sending or receiving data over the network.

1, 2, 3, 4

Green. These numbered LEDs, corresponding with the numbered ports on the Router's back panel, serve two purposes. If the LED is continuously lit, the Router is successfully connected to a device through that port. A flashing LED indicates network activity over that port.

Internet

Green. The **Internet** LED lights up when there is a connection made through the Internet port.

Chapter 4: Connecting the Wireless-G Broadband Router

Overview

This chapter includes two sets of instructions. If the Wireless-G Broadband Router will be the only router in your network, follow the instructions in “Hardware Installation for Connection to Your Broadband Modem.” If you want to install the Wireless-G Broadband Router behind another router in your network, then follow the instructions in “Hardware Installation for Connection to Another Router.”

Hardware Installation for Connection to Your Broadband Modem

1. Power down your network devices.
2. Locate an optimum location for the Router. The best place for the Router is usually at the center of your wireless network, with line of sight to all of your mobile stations.
3. Fix the direction of the antennas. Try to place the Router in a position that will best cover your wireless network. Normally, the higher you place the antenna, the better the performance will be.
4. Connect a standard Ethernet network cable to the Router's Internet port. Then, connect the other end of the Ethernet cable to your cable or DSL broadband modem.

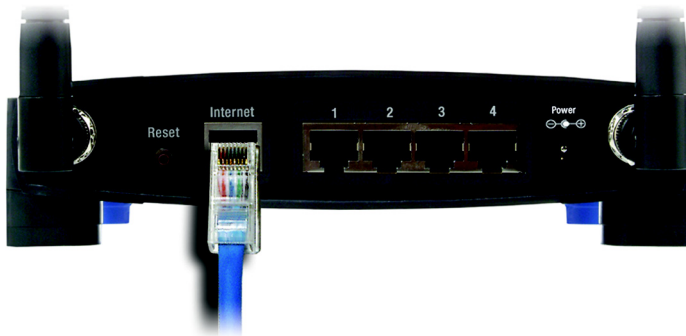


Figure 4-1: Connecting Your Internet Connection

5. Connect your network PCs or Ethernet devices to the Router's numbered ports using standard Ethernet network cabling.

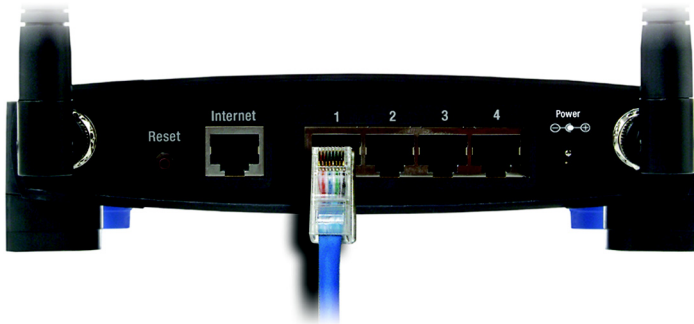


Figure 4-2: Connecting Your Network Devices

6. Connect the AC power adapter to the Router's Power port and the other end into an electrical outlet. Only use the power adapter supplied with the Router. Use of a different adapter may result in product damage.



IMPORTANT: Make sure you use the power adapter that is supplied with the Router. Use of a different power adapter could damage the Router.

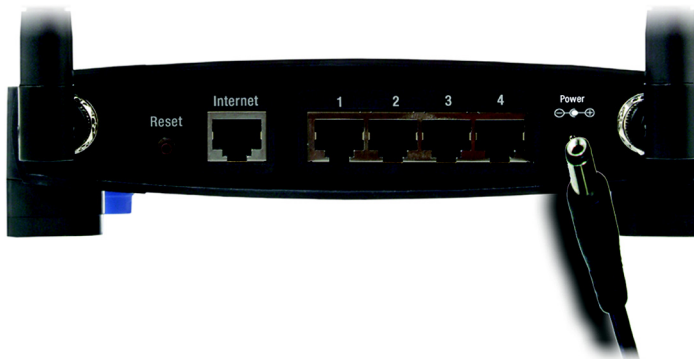


Figure 4-3: Connecting the Power

Now that the hardware installation is complete, proceed to “Chapter 5: Setting up the Wireless-G Broadband Router,” for directions on how to configure the Router.

Hardware Installation for Connection to Another Router

Before you install the Router, you must change the default IP address of the other router. This is mandatory because both routers may be set to the same IP address by default. If you do not change the other router's default IP address, then you may not be able to set up the Router.

First, make sure the Router is NOT connected to your network. Then follow these instructions:

1. To access the other router's Web-based Utility, launch Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator, and enter the other router's default IP address, **192.168.1.1**, in the *Address* field. Then press **Enter**.
2. A password request page will appear. Leave the *User Name* field blank. In the *Password* field, enter the password you have set (the default password is **admin**). Then click the **OK** button.
3. The first screen that appears will display the Setup tab. In the *Network Setup* section, there is a setting called *Local IP Address*, which is set to 192.168.1.1. Change this to **192.168.2.1**.
4. Click the **Save Settings** button to save your change, and then exit the Web-based Utility.
5. Power down your network devices. Now you will begin the hardware installation of Router.
6. Locate an optimum location for the Router. The best place for the Router is usually at the center of your wireless network, with line of sight to all of your mobile stations.
7. Fix the direction of the antennas. Try to place the Router in a position that will best cover your wireless network. Normally, the higher you place the antenna, the better the performance will be.
8. Connect a standard Ethernet network cable to the Router's Internet port. Then, connect the other end of the Ethernet cable to one of the numbered Ethernet ports on your other router.

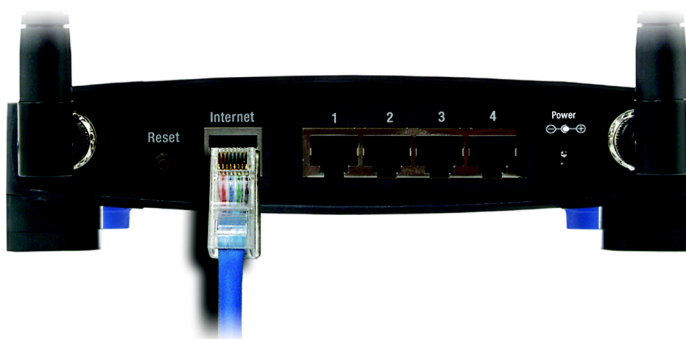


Figure 4-5: Connecting Another Router



NOTE: Steps 1-4 are instructions for a typical Linksys router; however, if you are using a non-Linksys router, refer to the other router's documentation for instructions on how to change its local IP address to 192.168.2.1.

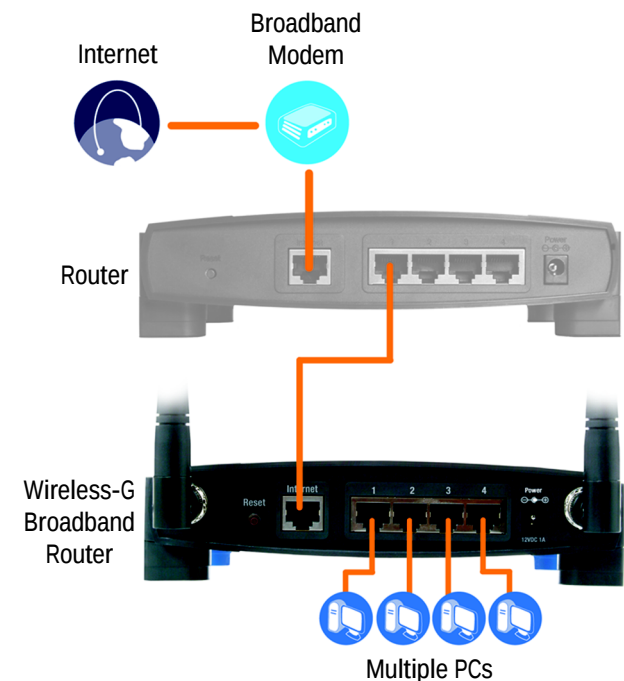


Figure 4-4: Diagram for Connection to Another Router

9. Decide which network computers or Ethernet devices you want to connect to the Router.

Disconnect the selected computers or devices from the other router, and then connect them to the Router's numbered ports using standard Ethernet network cabling.

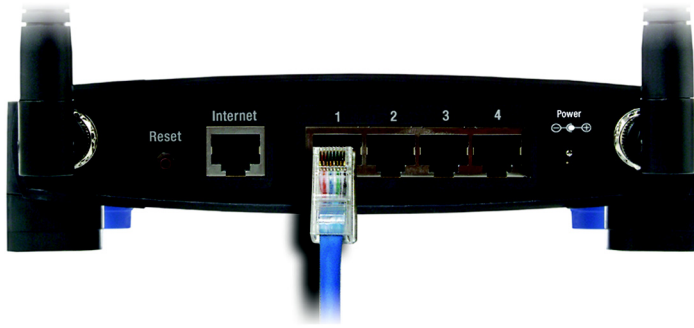


Figure 4-6: Connecting Your Network Devices

10. Connect the AC power adapter to the Router's Power port and the other end into an electrical outlet. Only use the power adapter supplied with the Router. Use of a different adapter may result in product damage.



IMPORTANT: Make sure you use the power adapter that is supplied with the Router. Use of a different power adapter could damage the Router.

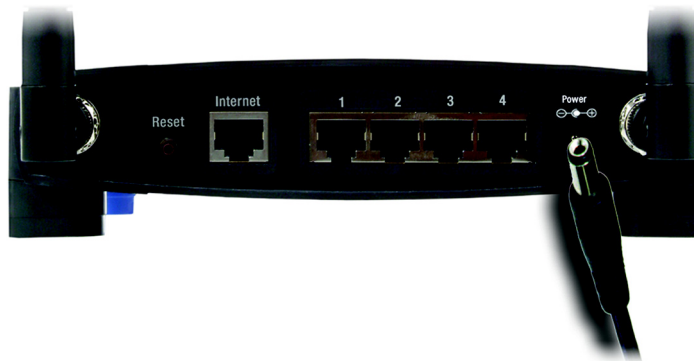


Figure 4-7: Connecting the Power

Now that the hardware installation is complete, proceed to “Chapter 5: Setting up the Wireless-G Broadband Router,” for directions on how to configure the Router.

Chapter 5: Setting up the Wireless-G Broadband Router

Overview

The Wireless-G Broadband Router Setup Wizard will guide you through the installation procedure. It will go through the instructions for configuring the Router's network and wireless settings.

Using the Setup Wizard

1. Insert the **Setup Wizard CD-ROM** into your CD-ROM drive. The Setup Wizard should run automatically, and the *Welcome* screen should appear. If it does not, click the **Start** button and choose **Run**. In the field that appears, enter **D:\setup.exe** (if "D" is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).
2. The Setup Wizard will automatically detect the language setting of your PC. On the initial *Welcome* screen, click the **Next** button if you want to proceed with the Setup Wizard using the current language. If you want to use a different language, select the appropriate language, and then click the **Next** button.

3. On the following *Welcome* screen, click the **Click Here to Start** button if this is the first time you are running the Setup Wizard. These are your other choices:

Wireless Setup - If you have a computer displaying the SecureEasySetup logo, then click **Wireless Setup** and proceed to the section at the end of this chapter, "Using SecureEasySetup to Configure Your Notebook."



NOTE: SecureEasySetup uses WPA-Personal encryption. If your current wireless devices do not support WPA-Personal security, then you cannot use SecureEasySetup on your network. You will need to manually configure your network security using the encryption supported by your existing devices.

Norton Internet Security - Click the **Norton Internet Security** button to install the Norton Internet Security software program.

User Guide - Click the **User Guide** button to open the PDF file of this User Guide.

Exit - Click the **Exit** button to exit the Setup Wizard.



Figure 5-1: Setup Wizard's Welcome - Language Selection Screen



Figure 5-2: Setup Wizard's Welcome - Start Wizard Screen

4. After reading the License Agreement, click the **Next** button if you accept, or click the **Cancel** button to end the installation.

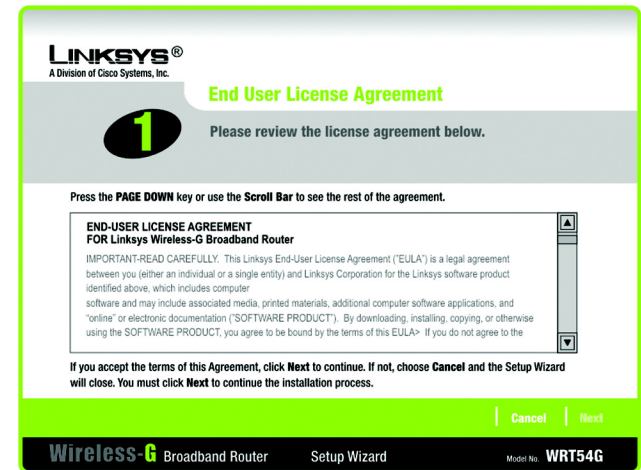


Figure 5-3: Setup Wizard's License Agreement Screen

5. The Setup Wizard will ask you to disconnect your broadband modem from your PC. After you have done so, click the **Next** button.

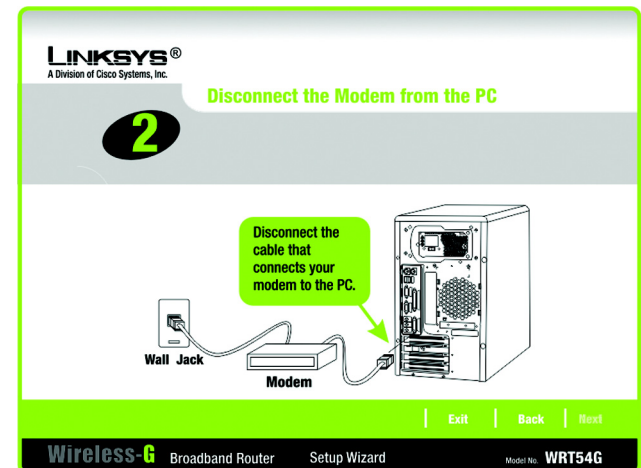


Figure 5-4: Setup Wizard's Disconnect the Modem from the PC Screen