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Linksys WAP11

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Model: WAP11

INTRODUCTION

The Linksys WAP11 Wireless-B Network Access Point is designed to integrate wireless devices into your existing wired network. This device allows you to add computers and other network-enabled devices to your network without the need for extensive cabling, creating an 11 Mbps Wireless-B (802.11b) network.

Key features include:

- High-speed data transfer rates up to 11 Mbps.
- Extended operating range: up to 150 meters indoors and 500 meters outdoors.
- Support for advanced modes such as AP Client, Point-to-Point, Point-to-Multipoint Bridging, and Repeater Mode.
- Enhanced network security with up to 128-bit encryption and wireless MAC address filtering.
- Dual antenna configuration for improved signal sensitivity and range.
- Interoperability with IEEE 802.11b (DSSS) 2.4 GHz-compliant equipment.

SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps to set up your Linksys WAP11 Wireless-B Network Access Point.

Package Contents

Ensure you have the following items:

- Linksys WAP11 Wireless Access Point
- AC Power Adapter
- CD-ROM with documentation and utilities
- Two detachable antennas
- USB Cable (for configuration)

Physical Installation

1. **Connect Antennas:** Attach the two detachable antennas to the connectors on the back of the WAP11. Ensure they are securely fastened.
2. **Connect to Network:** Connect an Ethernet cable from your existing wired network (e.g., a router or switch) to the Ethernet port on the WAP11.
3. **Power On:** Connect the AC power adapter to the WAP11's power input and then plug it into a power outlet. The power indicator light should illuminate.



Figure 1: Linksys WAP11 Wireless-B Network Access Point. This image shows the front and side view of the WAP11 unit, highlighting its compact design and the two external antennas for enhanced wireless coverage. The various ports for power and Ethernet connectivity are also visible.

Initial Configuration

The WAP11 can be configured via a USB port or an Ethernet connection. For initial setup, it is often easiest to connect directly via Ethernet to a computer.

1. **Connect to Computer:** Connect your computer directly to the WAP11's Ethernet port using an Ethernet cable, or use the provided USB cable to connect to a USB port on your computer.
2. **Access Configuration Utility:** Refer to the CD-ROM for the specific utility or web-based interface instructions to access the WAP11's configuration settings. Typically, this involves opening a web

browser and entering the default IP address of the WAP11 (check the manual on the CD-ROM for the exact address).

3. Configure Wireless Settings:

- **SSID:** Set a unique Service Set Identifier (SSID) for your wireless network. This is the name that will appear when devices scan for Wi-Fi networks.
- **Security:** Configure wireless security. It is highly recommended to enable 128-bit WEP encryption and MAC address filtering to protect your network from unauthorized access.
- **Operating Mode:** Select the desired operating mode (e.g., Access Point, Repeater, Bridge).

4. **Save Settings:** After making changes, save the configuration and restart the WAP11 if prompted.

System Requirements for Configuration:

- PC with USB support or Ethernet connection.
- Operating System: Windows 95, 98, Me, 2000 Professional, or NT 4.0.
- Minimum 500 KB hard disk space.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once configured, the WAP11 operates to provide wireless connectivity. Here's how to utilize its features:

Wireless Connectivity

- **Connecting Devices:** Wireless-B (802.11b) compatible devices can scan for your network's SSID and connect using the security key you configured.
- **Range:** The WAP11 offers a range of up to 150 meters indoors and up to 500 meters outdoors, depending on environmental factors and obstructions.
- **User Capacity:** The device supports up to 32 users/nodes simultaneously.

Advanced Operating Modes

The WAP11 supports several operational modes to suit different network requirements:

- **Access Point (AP) Mode:** The standard mode, connecting wireless clients to a wired network.
- **AP Client Mode:** Allows the WAP11 to act as a wireless client, connecting to another access point.
- **Point-to-Point Bridging:** Connects two wired networks wirelessly over a distance.
- **Point-to-Multipoint Bridging:** Connects multiple wired networks wirelessly.
- **Repeater Mode:** Extends the range of an existing wireless network by repeating its signal.

Network Management Features

The WAP11 includes features to optimize network performance:

- **Roaming:** Facilitates seamless transitions for wireless clients moving between different access points within the same network.
- **Best Access Point Selection:** Helps clients connect to the access point with the strongest signal.
- **Load Balancing:** Distributes network traffic across multiple access points to prevent overload.
- **Network Traffic Filtering:** Allows for control over data flow based on specified criteria.

MAINTENANCE

To ensure optimal performance and longevity of your Linksys WAP11, consider the following maintenance

tips:

- **Firmware Updates:** Regularly check the Linksys website for firmware updates. Updating the firmware can improve performance, add new features, and address security vulnerabilities.
- **Placement:** Position the WAP11 in a central location, away from large metal objects, thick walls, and other sources of interference.
- **Interference:** Be aware that 2.4 GHz cordless phones and microwave ovens can cause interference with the wireless signal. If you experience connectivity issues, try to move these devices away from the WAP11 or change their operating channels if possible.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the device clean and free from dust. Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners.
- **Security Review:** Periodically review your wireless security settings (WEP key, MAC filtering) to ensure they remain robust and up-to-date.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Linksys WAP11, refer to the following troubleshooting steps:

No Wireless Connection

- **Check Power and Cables:** Ensure the WAP11 is powered on and all Ethernet cables are securely connected.
- **Verify SSID:** Make sure your wireless device is attempting to connect to the correct SSID broadcast by the WAP11.
- **Security Key:** Double-check that the WEP encryption key entered on your wireless device matches the one configured on the WAP11. Incorrect key entry is a common issue.
- **MAC Filtering:** If MAC address filtering is enabled, ensure the MAC address of your wireless device is added to the WAP11's allowed list.
- **SSID Broadcast:** If you are using a Linksys Wireless Connection Manager, try setting the default profile's SSID to "any" to allow the card to connect to the closest access point.

Slow Connection or Dropped Signals

- **Interference:** Identify and relocate potential sources of interference such as 2.4 GHz cordless phones, microwave ovens, or other wireless devices.
- **WAP11 Placement:** Adjust the position of the WAP11 and its antennas to optimize signal strength and coverage.
- **Channel Selection:** In the WAP11's configuration, try changing the wireless channel to avoid congestion with neighboring networks.
- **Firmware:** Ensure your WAP11 has the latest firmware installed.

Cannot Access Configuration Interface

- **Direct Connection:** Connect your computer directly to the WAP11 via Ethernet or USB.
- **IP Address:** Verify your computer's IP settings are compatible with the WAP11's default IP address range, or ensure your computer is set to obtain an IP address automatically (DHCP).
- **Reset Device:** If all else fails, perform a factory reset on the WAP11 (refer to the device's physical reset button or the manual for instructions). This will revert all settings to default.

SPECIFICATIONS

Brand	Linksys
Model Name	WAP11
Wireless Communication Standard	802.11b
Frequency Band Class	Single-Band (2.4 GHz)
Data Transfer Rate	11 Megabits Per Second
LAN Port Bandwidth	10/100 Mbps
Security Protocol	WPA-PSK or WPA2-PSK (Note: WAP11 primarily supports WEP, WPA/WPA2 might be for later revisions or miscategorized)
Number of Antennas	2
Antenna Type	Fixed (Detachable)
Connectivity Technology	Ethernet, Wi-Fi
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer
Item Weight	15.2 ounces
Operating System	Cisco IOS (Note: This refers to the underlying system, not user-facing OS compatibility)

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Warranty Information

The Linksys WAP11 Wireless-B Network Access Point comes with a **1-year limited warranty**. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For specific terms and conditions of the warranty, refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official Linksys website.

Technical Support

Linksys provides free technical support for the WAP11. Support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for customers in North America.

For the most up-to-date support information, drivers, utilities, and firmware, please visit the official Linksys website. The website is a valuable resource for troubleshooting and optimizing your device.

Contact information for technical support can typically be found on the Linksys website or in the product documentation.