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Linksys WAP54G

Linksys Wireless-G Access Point WAP54G

User Instruction Manual

1. Introduction

The Linksys Wireless-G Access Point WAP54G is a device designed to add wireless connectivity to an existing wired network. It allows wireless-enabled devices such as laptops, smartphones, and tablets to connect to your network and access the internet or other network resources. This access point operates on the 802.11b/g wireless standards, providing reliable wireless communication.
This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your WAP54G Access Point.

2. Safety Information

- Ensure the device is placed in a well-ventilated area to prevent overheating.
- Do not expose the device to water or excessive humidity.
- Use only the power adapter supplied with the device.
- Keep the device away from direct sunlight and heat sources.
- Do not attempt to open or repair the device yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel.

3. Package Contents

Please check the contents of your WAP54G package. It should include:

- Linksys Wireless-G Access Point WAP54G
- Power Adapter
- Ethernet Network Cable
- Quick Installation Guide (if included)
- Resource CD (if included)



Image of the Linksys Wireless-G Access Point WAP54G, showing its compact design with two external antennas, typically used for extending wireless network coverage.

4. Setup

4.1 Physical Connection

1. Connect one end of the provided Ethernet cable to the Ethernet port on the WAP54G.
2. Connect the other end of the Ethernet cable to an available LAN port on your router or network switch.
3. Plug the power adapter into the WAP54G's power port and then into an electrical outlet.
4. Wait for the Power LED on the WAP54G to become solid green, indicating it is powered on and ready.

4.2 Initial Configuration (Web-Based Setup)

To configure the WAP54G, you will need to access its web-based setup utility. It is recommended to connect a computer directly to the WAP54G for initial setup.

1. Temporarily connect your computer directly to the WAP54G's Ethernet port using another Ethernet cable.
2. Configure your computer's Ethernet adapter to use a static IP address within the same subnet as the WAP54G (e.g., IP Address: 192.168.1.10, Subnet Mask: 255.255.255.0). The default IP address of the WAP54G is typically 192.168.1.245.
3. Open a web browser (e.g., Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome) and type the WAP54G's default IP address (e.g., http://192.168.1.245) into the address bar and press Enter.
4. When prompted for a username and password, enter the default credentials. The default username is usually **admin** and the default password is **admin**.
5. Once logged in, you will see the setup utility.

4.3 Wireless Settings Configuration

Within the web-based setup utility, navigate to the Wireless section to configure your wireless network.

- **Wireless Network Name (SSID):** Change the default SSID to a unique name for your wireless network (e.g., "MyHomeWiFi"). This is the name that will appear when devices scan for wireless networks.
- **Wireless Channel:** For optimal performance, select a wireless channel that is not heavily used in your area (e.g., 1, 6, or 11).
- **Security Mode:** It is highly recommended to enable wireless security. Select **WPA2-PSK** (Wi-Fi Protected Access 2 - Pre-Shared Key) for the strongest encryption.
- **Passphrase/Network Key:** Enter a strong, memorable password (at least 8 characters, combining letters, numbers, and symbols) for your wireless network. This key will be required for devices to connect.
- Save your settings. The WAP54G may restart to apply the changes.

After saving, remember to revert your computer's Ethernet adapter settings back to DHCP (Obtain an IP address automatically) if you changed them for direct connection.

5. Operating the Access Point

Once configured, the Linksys WAP54G will continuously broadcast your wireless network. Wireless-enabled devices within range can now detect and connect to your network using the SSID and security key you configured.

- **LED Indicators:** Monitor the LEDs on the front panel for status information. Common LEDs include Power, WLAN (Wireless LAN), and Ethernet. Refer to the device's quick installation guide for specific LED meanings.
- **Placement:** For optimal wireless coverage, place the WAP54G in a central location, away from obstructions like thick walls, metal objects, and large appliances that can interfere with the wireless signal.

6. Maintenance

- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the official Linksys support website for firmware updates for your WAP54G. Firmware updates can improve performance, add new features, or fix security vulnerabilities. Follow the instructions provided by Linksys carefully when performing updates.
- **Factory Reset:** If you encounter persistent issues or forget your login credentials, you can perform a factory reset. Locate the reset button (often a small pinhole button) on the device. With the device powered on, press and hold the reset button for 10-15 seconds using a paperclip or similar pointed object. This will restore the device to its default factory settings, requiring re-configuration.
- **Cleaning:** Gently wipe the exterior of the device with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosols.

7. Troubleshooting

7.1 Cannot Access Web-Based Setup Page

- Ensure your computer is directly connected to the WAP54G via Ethernet.
- Verify your computer's IP address is set to a static IP in the 192.168.1.x range (e.g., 192.168.1.10) with a subnet mask of 255.255.255.0.
- Double-check the WAP54G's IP address in your browser (default is 192.168.1.245).
- Try a different web browser.
- Perform a factory reset if you suspect incorrect IP settings or forgotten credentials.

7.2 No Wireless Signal or Devices Cannot Connect

- Check if the WAP54G is powered on and the WLAN LED is active.
- Verify that the Ethernet cable is securely connected to your router/switch and the WAP54G.
- Ensure the SSID broadcast is enabled in the wireless settings.
- Confirm that the wireless security settings (SSID, security mode, and passphrase) on your connecting devices match those configured on the WAP54G exactly.
- Try changing the wireless channel to avoid interference from other networks.

7.3 Slow Wireless Connection

- Relocate the WAP54G to a more central position, away from potential sources of interference (e.g., cordless phones, microwaves, large metal objects).
- Ensure your connecting devices are within optimal range of the access point.
- Check for firmware updates for the WAP54G.
- Verify that the wireless channel is not congested. Use a Wi-Fi analyzer tool (available for smartphones/computers)

to find a less crowded channel.

8. Specifications

Feature	Description
Model Name	WAP54G-DE
Wireless Communication Standard	802.11b/g
Frequency Band Class	Single-Band (2.4 GHz)
Security Protocol	WPA2-PSK
Connectivity Technology	Ethernet, Wi-Fi
Product Dimensions	6.65 x 7.32 x 1.89 inches
Manufacturer	Linksys
Operating System	Cisco IOS (firmware based)
Special Feature	Access Point Mode, WPS (Wi-Fi Protected Setup)

9. Warranty and Support

For warranty information, technical support, and additional resources, please visit the official Linksys support website. You can find FAQs, driver downloads, and contact information for customer service there.
It is recommended to register your product on the Linksys website to receive updates and support notifications.
Note: Warranty terms and support availability may vary by region and purchase date. Please refer to the documentation included with your product or the Linksys website for the most current information.

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