Linksys WVC54GC

Linksys Compact Wireless-G Internet Video Camera WVC54GC User Manual

Model: WVC54GC

INTRODUCTION

The Linksys Compact Wireless-G Internet Video Camera WVC54GC is a self-contained unit designed to transmit live video over the internet. It allows monitoring of a location from any web browser. This camera operates independently, without requiring a connected PC, by utilizing its own web server for direct network connection via Wireless-G (802.11g) or 10/100 Ethernet cable.

The camera employs MPEG-4 video compression to deliver a high-quality video stream at resolutions up to 320x240. Its compact design and wireless capability enable flexible placement, either mounted on a wall or placed on a desktop using the included stand.

Package Contents

- Linksys Compact Wireless-G Internet Video Camera (WVC54GC)
- Camera Body
- Mount
- User Manual (this document)
- Power Adapter
- Ethernet Cable

Figure 1: Linksys Compact Wireless-G Internet Video Camera WVC54GC. This image shows the front view of the camera, highlighting its compact design and lens.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The WVC54GC camera is designed for ease of use and flexible monitoring. Key features include:

- **Wireless-G Connectivity:** Supports 802.11g for wireless network integration.
- **Integrated Web Server:** Operates independently without a dedicated PC.
- **MPEG-4 Video Compression:** Provides high-quality video streams.
- **Motion Detection:** Automatically sends email alerts with video clips upon detecting movement.
- **Multi-User Access:** Supports up to four simultaneous remote users.
- **Flexible Placement:** Can be wall-mounted or used with a desktop stand.
- **Remote Access:** Accessible from outside your home network with proper router configuration and optional SoloLink domain service.

SETUP

This section outlines the general steps for setting up your Linksys WVC54GC camera. For detailed, step-by-step instructions, please refer to the comprehensive user manual included in your product package.

1. Physical Connection

1. **Power Connection:** Connect the provided power adapter to the camera's power input and then to a power outlet.
2. **Initial Network Connection (Wired):** For initial setup, it is recommended to connect the camera directly to your router or network switch using an Ethernet cable. This ensures a stable connection for configuration.

2. Network Configuration

1. **Accessing the Camera's Web Interface:** Once connected to your network, use a web browser on a Windows-based PC within the same network to access the camera's built-in web server. You may need to use a utility provided by Linksys (often on an included CD) to discover the camera's IP address.
2. **Wireless Setup:** Within the camera's web interface, navigate to the wireless settings. Select your wireless network (SSID), enter the security key (WPA/WPA2-PSK, WEP), and save the settings. After successful wireless configuration, you can disconnect the Ethernet cable.
3. **Router Configuration for Remote Access:** To view the camera feed from outside your home network, you will need to configure port forwarding on your router. Open an appropriate port (e.g., port 80 or a custom port) and forward it to the camera's IP address. Consult your router's manual for specific instructions on port forwarding.
4. **Dynamic DNS (DDNS) Service:** If your Internet Service Provider (ISP) assigns a dynamic IP address, consider using a Dynamic DNS service (like SoloLink, if available) to access your camera using an easy-to-remember hostname instead of a changing IP address.

Note: Ensure your router's firewall is configured to allow necessary traffic for the camera. For security, change the default administrator password immediately after initial setup.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

This section details how to operate your Linksys WVC54GC camera for monitoring and security purposes.

Viewing Live Video

- **Local Network Access:** Open a web browser (preferably Internet Explorer for full functionality, as some older models may rely on ActiveX) on a Windows-based PC connected to the same network as the camera. Enter the camera's IP address or hostname into the browser's address bar.
- **Remote Access:** If you have configured port forwarding and/or a DDNS service, you can access the camera from outside your home network by entering your public IP address (or DDNS hostname) followed by the configured port number (e.g., http://your.ddns.hostname:port).
- **Login:** You will be prompted to enter the username and password for the camera. Use the credentials you set during the setup process.

Security Features

- **Motion Detection:** Configure motion detection zones and sensitivity within the camera's web interface. When motion is detected, the camera can be set to automatically send email alerts with attached video clips to specified recipients.
- **User Accounts:** Create password-protected user accounts to manage access to the camera feed and settings. This allows you to control who can view the video and make changes.
- **Video Recording:** Some models may support recording video clips to a network location or an attached storage device (if applicable). Refer to the full user manual for specific recording capabilities.

MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Linksys WVC54GC camera.

- **Cleaning:** Gently wipe the camera lens and exterior with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals, solvents, or abrasive cleaners, as these can damage the camera's finish or lens.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the Linksys support website for firmware updates. Keeping your camera's firmware up-to-date can improve performance, add new features, and address security vulnerabilities. Follow the instructions provided by Linksys carefully when performing firmware updates.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Ensure the camera is operated within its specified temperature and humidity ranges. Avoid exposing the camera to extreme temperatures, direct sunlight for prolonged periods, or excessive moisture.
- **Cable Management:** Ensure all cables (power, Ethernet) are securely connected and not under strain. Avoid placing heavy objects on cables.

TROUBLESHOOTING

This section provides solutions to common issues you might encounter with your Linksys WVC54GC camera.

No Video Feed / Cannot Access Camera

- **Power Check:** Ensure the camera is powered on and the power adapter is securely connected.
- **Network Connection:** Verify that the camera is properly connected to your network, either via Ethernet or wirelessly. Check network cables and Wi-Fi signal strength.
- **IP Address:** Confirm the camera's IP address. Use the Linksys setup utility or check your router's connected devices list.
- **Browser Compatibility:** For older models, ensure you are using a compatible web browser, such as Internet Explorer, which may be required for ActiveX controls.
- **Firewall Settings:** Check your computer's and router's firewall settings to ensure they are not blocking access to the camera.
- **Router Reboot:** Try rebooting your router and then the camera.

Poor Video Quality / Dark Images

- **Lighting Conditions:** The WVC54GC performs best in well-lit environments. Poor lighting, especially at night, will result in dark or unclear images. This camera does not feature infrared night vision.
- **Resolution Settings:** Check the video resolution settings in the camera's web interface. Higher resolutions may require more bandwidth.
- **Network Bandwidth:** Ensure your network has sufficient bandwidth, especially if multiple devices are streaming video or if you are accessing remotely.
- **Lens Cleanliness:** Clean the camera lens gently with a soft, dry cloth.

Motion Detection Email Alerts Not Working

- **Email Server Settings:** Verify that the SMTP server settings (outgoing mail server, port, authentication) configured in the camera's web interface are correct for your email provider.
- **Recipient Email Address:** Ensure the recipient email address is correctly entered.
- **Motion Detection Zones:** Confirm that motion detection is enabled and the detection zones are properly configured.
- **ISP Blocking:** Some Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may block outgoing SMTP traffic on non-standard ports.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	WVC54GC
Brand	Linksys
Camcorder Type	Video Camera
Connectivity Technology	Wireless (802.11g), Ethernet (10/100)
Video Capture Resolution	Up to 320x240
Video Capture Format	MPEG-4
Supported Audio Format	AAC
Maximum Aperture	1.8 f
Flash Memory Type	Micro SD (Note: Functionality may vary, refer to full manual)
Product Dimensions	1.46 x 3.54 x 4.02 inches
Item Weight	11.3 ounces
Manufacturer	Linksys
Language	English
ASIN	B000DZM4TC

Note: Specifications are subject to change without notice. For the most current information, please refer to the official Linksys product page or documentation.

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding the product warranty, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Linksys website. Warranty terms and conditions may vary by region and purchase date.

If you encounter issues that cannot be resolved using the troubleshooting steps provided in this manual, or for further technical assistance, please contact Linksys Customer Support. You can typically find support contact information, FAQs, and driver downloads on the official Linksys support website.

Visit the official Linksys Store for more products and support: Linksys Store