

NETGEAR DGN3500

NETGEAR DGN3500 N300 Wireless Gigabit ADSL2+ Modem Router User Manual

Model: DGN3500

1. INTRODUCTION

The NETGEAR DGN3500 N300 Wireless Gigabit ADSL2+ Modem Router integrates an ADSL2+ modem and a Wireless-N router into a single device. This unit is designed to deliver high-speed internet access and establish a robust wireless network for both home and small office environments. This manual provides essential instructions for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your NETGEAR DGN3500 device.

2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Before proceeding with the installation, please verify that your package contains the following items:

- NETGEAR DGN3500 N300 Wireless Gigabit ADSL2+ Modem Router
- Ethernet Cable
- Phone Cable (DSL Cable)
- Power Adapter
- Resource CD (may contain software and documentation)
- Quick Installation Guide

3. PHYSICAL OVERVIEW

Familiarize yourself with the device's indicators and ports.



Image: Front view of the NETGEAR DGN3500 N300 Wireless Gigabit ADSL2+ Modem Router, showing its indicator lights and sleek design.

Front Panel LEDs

- **Power LED:** Indicates the power status of the device.
- **Internet LED:** Illuminates when an active ADSL connection is established and flashes to indicate internet activity.
- **Wireless LED:** Indicates the status and activity of the wireless network.
- **LAN LEDs (1-4):** Each LED corresponds to a wired Ethernet port, indicating connection and activity.
- **USB LED:** Indicates activity on the USB port, typically when a storage device is connected and accessed.

Rear Panel Ports and Buttons

- **DSL Port:** Connects the modem router to your ADSL telephone line.
- **Ethernet Ports (1-4):** Four 10/100 Fast Ethernet ports for connecting wired devices such as computers, gaming consoles, or network printers.
- **USB Port:** Supports ReadySHARE functionality for connecting a USB storage device to share files across your network.

- **Power On/Off Button:** Controls the power supply to the device.
- **Power Adapter Port:** Connects the provided power adapter to the device.
- **Reset Button:** A recessed button used to restore the device to its factory default settings. Use a paperclip or similar pointed object to press and hold for approximately 10 seconds.

4. SETUP GUIDE

4.1. Hardware Connection

1. **Connect the DSL Line:** Connect one end of the phone cable to the DSL port on the modem router and the other end to your telephone wall jack. If you have a phone splitter, ensure the modem router is connected to the modem port of the splitter.
2. **Connect Power:** Plug the power adapter into the power adapter port on the modem router and then into an electrical outlet. Press the Power On/Off button if necessary. Wait for the Power LED to turn solid green.
3. **Connect a Computer (Optional for Initial Setup):** For initial configuration, you may connect a computer directly to one of the Ethernet ports (1-4) on the modem router using an Ethernet cable. This ensures a stable connection during setup.

4.2. Software Configuration (Initial Setup)

1. **Access the Router Interface:** Open a web browser on a connected computer. In the address bar, type <http://www.routerlogin.net> or <http://192.168.0.1> and press Enter.
2. **Log In:** When prompted, enter the default username (usually **admin**) and password (usually **password**). These credentials can be found on a label on the device or in the Quick Installation Guide.
3. **Run Setup Wizard:** The NETGEAR Genie setup wizard should launch automatically. Follow the on-screen instructions to configure your internet connection. You will need your Internet Service Provider (ISP) details, including your DSL username and password.
4. **Configure Wireless Network:** During the setup, you will be prompted to set up your wireless network (Wi-Fi). Choose a unique network name (SSID) and a strong password (WPA2-PSK recommended). Note these details for connecting your wireless devices.
5. **Complete Setup:** Once the wizard is complete, save your settings. The modem router will restart, and your internet connection should become active.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1. Wireless Network Configuration

- **Connecting Devices:** On your wireless devices (laptops, smartphones, tablets), search for available Wi-Fi networks. Select the SSID you configured during setup and enter the wireless password.
- **Changing Wi-Fi Settings:** To modify your Wi-Fi network name (SSID), password, or security type,

log back into the router's web interface (<http://www.routerlogin.net>). Navigate to the Wireless Settings section.

- **Push 'N' Connect (WPS):** For WPS-compatible devices, press the WPS button on the modem router and then activate WPS on your device within two minutes to establish a secure connection without entering a password.

5.2. ReadySHARE USB Storage

The ReadySHARE feature allows you to connect a USB storage device (e.g., a USB hard drive or flash drive) to the modem router and share its contents with all devices on your network.

1. **Connect USB Drive:** Plug your USB storage device into the USB port on the rear of the modem router.
2. **Access Shared Content:** From a computer on your network, open File Explorer (Windows) or Finder (macOS). The USB drive should appear as a network share. You can also access it via the router's web interface under the ReadySHARE section.

5.3. NETGEAR Genie

NETGEAR Genie is the web-based management interface for your modem router. It provides an intuitive dashboard to manage, monitor, and repair your home network.

- **Network Status:** View real-time information about your internet connection, wireless network, and connected devices.
- **Device Management:** See a list of all devices connected to your network, manage their access, and view their IP addresses.
- **Advanced Settings:** Access advanced features such as port forwarding, parental controls, and VPN settings.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance helps ensure optimal performance and security for your modem router.

- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the NETGEAR support website for new firmware versions. Updating firmware can improve performance, add new features, and fix security vulnerabilities. You can usually update firmware through the router's web interface.
- **Regular Reboots:** Rebooting your modem router every few weeks can help clear its memory and resolve minor connectivity issues. Simply unplug the power adapter for 10 seconds and then plug it back in.
- **Physical Cleaning:** Keep the device free from dust and obstructions to ensure proper ventilation. Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning.
- **Security Best Practices:** Regularly change your router's administrative password and Wi-Fi password. Use strong, unique passwords for both.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter.

- **No Internet Connection:**

- Check if the Internet LED is solid green. If not, verify DSL line connection and contact your ISP.
- Ensure your ISP username and password are correctly entered in the router settings.
- Reboot the modem router and your computer.

- **Slow Wireless Speed:**

- Ensure your devices are connected to the 802.11n network if supported.
- Reduce interference by moving the router away from other electronic devices (cordless phones, microwaves).
- Check for firmware updates.

- **Cannot Access Router Settings:**

- Verify your computer is connected to the router (wired or wireless).
- Ensure you are using the correct IP address (192.168.0.1) or URL (routerlogin.net).
- Clear your browser's cache and cookies, or try a different browser.

- **Resetting to Factory Defaults:** If you encounter persistent issues or forget your password, you can restore the modem router to its factory default settings. With the device powered on, use a paperclip to press and hold the recessed Reset button on the rear panel for approximately 10 seconds. The device will reboot with default settings.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

| Feature | Specification |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Brand | NETGEAR |
| Model Name | DGN3500 |
| Wireless Standard | 802.11a/b/g/n (N300) |
| Data Transfer Rate (Wireless) | Up to 300 Mbps |
| LAN Port Bandwidth | 10/100 Mbps (Fast Ethernet) |
| Number of Ports | 1x ADSL2+ port, 4x 10/100 Fast Ethernet ports, 1x USB port |
| Security Protocol | WEP, WPA-PSK, WPA2-PSK, WPS |
| Operating System (Management) | NETGEAR Genie |
| Item Weight | 1.1 Pounds |
| Compatible Devices | Personal Computer |
| Connectivity Technology | Wireless |

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information, technical support, and additional resources, please refer to the documentation included with your product. You can also visit the official NETGEAR support website for the latest drivers, firmware, and troubleshooting guides.

NETGEAR Support Website: <https://www.netgear.com/support/>