

Linksys BEFW11S4

Linksys Instant Wireless Router BEFW11S4 User Manual

Model: BEFW11S4

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides instructions for the installation, configuration, and operation of your Linksys Instant Wireless Router, model BEFW11S4. This device combines a 4-port 10/100Base-T Ethernet switch, a DHCP server, and an 802.11b wireless access point, allowing multiple users to share a single Internet connection wirelessly or via wired connections.

The BEFW11S4 operates on the 2.4GHz frequency band and supports the 802.11b wireless standard, providing wireless connectivity for compatible devices.



Image 1.1: Front view of the Linksys BEFW11S4 Instant Wireless Router, showing its compact design and status indicators.

2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that your package contains the following items:

- Linksys Instant Wireless Router (Model: BEFW11S4)
- Power Adapter (**Note:** The product description indicates "No power Supply" for some listings. Ensure you have a compatible 5V DC, 2.5A power adapter.)
- Ethernet Cable (Typically included for initial setup.)
- User Manual (this document)
- Resource CD (May include drivers and utility software.)

3. SETUP

3.1. Physical Connection

1. **Position the Router:** Place the router in a central location to maximize wireless coverage. Avoid placing it near large metal objects, concrete walls, or other electronic devices that may cause interference.
2. **Connect to the Internet:**
 - Ensure your cable or DSL modem is powered off.
 - Connect one end of an Ethernet cable to the **WAN** port (often labeled "Internet") on the back of the BEFW11S4 router.
 - Connect the other end of this Ethernet cable to your cable or DSL modem's Ethernet port.
3. **Connect to a Computer (Optional for initial setup):**
 - Connect one end of another Ethernet cable to one of the **LAN** ports (numbered 1-4) on the back of the BEFW11S4 router.
 - Connect the other end of this Ethernet cable to the Ethernet port on your computer.
4. **Power On:**
 - Connect the power adapter to the router's power input.
 - Plug the power adapter into an electrical outlet.
 - Power on your cable or DSL modem, then wait for it to fully initialize (usually indicated by stable status lights).
 - Power on the Linksys BEFW11S4 router. Wait for the indicator lights to stabilize.

3.2. Initial Configuration

To configure the router, you will typically use a web browser.

1. **Access the Router:**
 - Open a web browser (e.g., Internet Explorer, Firefox) on a computer connected to the router (either wired or wirelessly).
 - In the address bar, type the router's default IP address, which is commonly 192.168.1.1, and press Enter.
2. **Login:**
 - When prompted, enter the default username and password. For Linksys routers, these are often:
 - Username: admin

- Password: admin (or leave blank)
- Refer to the router's label or included documentation for exact default credentials if these do not work.

3. Run Setup Wizard:

- Many routers include a setup wizard that guides you through basic configuration. Follow the on-screen instructions.
- **Change Default Password:** For security, immediately change the router's default administrator password.
- **Configure Internet Connection:** Select your Internet connection type (e.g., DHCP/Automatic IP, Static IP, PPPoE) and enter any required details provided by your Internet Service Provider (ISP).
- **Configure Wireless Settings:**

- **Wireless Network Name (SSID):** Change the default SSID to a unique name.
- **Security Mode:** Select a strong security protocol like WPA or WEP (WPA is preferred if supported, but BEFW11S4 is an older 802.11b device, so WEP might be the primary option).
- **Wireless Password (Passphrase/Key):** Create a strong, unique password for your wireless network.

4. Save Settings and Reboot:

After making changes, save your settings and reboot the router if prompted.

4. OPERATING THE ROUTER

4.1. Connecting Wireless Devices

To connect a wireless device (e.g., laptop, smartphone) to your BEFW11S4 router:

1. Enable Wi-Fi on your device.
2. Scan for available wireless networks.
3. Select the SSID (wireless network name) you configured for your BEFW11S4 router.
4. Enter the wireless password (security key) when prompted.
5. Your device should now connect to the wireless network.

4.2. Basic Network Management

You can access the router's web-based interface (as described in Section 3.2) to manage various settings:

- **Port Forwarding:** Configure port forwarding for specific applications or devices that require direct access from the internet (e.g., gaming consoles, security cameras).
- **MAC Address Filtering:** Restrict network access to only approved devices based on their MAC addresses.
- **Firewall Settings:** Adjust the built-in firewall to enhance network security.
- **DHCP Server:** View connected devices and their assigned IP addresses.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1. Firmware Updates

Periodically check the Linksys support website for firmware updates for your BEFW11S4 router. Firmware updates can improve performance, add new features, and address security vulnerabilities. Follow the instructions provided by Linksys carefully when performing a firmware update to avoid damaging the device.

5.2. Resetting the Router

If you forget your administrator password or encounter persistent issues, you may need to reset the router to its factory default settings. This will erase all custom configurations.

- With the router powered on, locate the **Reset** button (often a small, recessed button) on the back or bottom of the device.
- Use a paperclip or a similar pointed object to press and hold the Reset button for approximately 10-15 seconds.
- Release the button. The router will reboot with factory default settings. You will then need to reconfigure it as described in Section 3.2.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your Linksys BEFW11S4 router.

- No Internet Connection:**

- Check all cable connections (modem to router, router to computer).
- Reboot your modem, then the router, then your computer in that order.
- Verify your ISP connection is active.
- Ensure the WAN/Internet light on the router is active.

- Cannot Access Router Setup Page:**

- Ensure your computer is set to obtain an IP address automatically (DHCP).
- Confirm you are using the correct default IP address (e.g., 192.168.1.1).
- Try a different web browser.
- Temporarily disable any firewall or antivirus software on your computer.

- Wireless Connection Issues:**

- Verify the wireless network name (SSID) and password are correct.
- Ensure the wireless radio is enabled on the router (check settings in the web interface).
- Move closer to the router to improve signal strength.
- Check for interference from other 2.4GHz devices (cordless phones, microwaves).

- Slow Network Speed:**

- Ensure your devices are within optimal range of the router.
- Check for other devices consuming bandwidth on your network.
- Consider updating router firmware.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	BEFW11S4
Brand	Linksys
Wireless Standard	802.11b
Frequency Band	2.4 GHz (Single-Band)
Ethernet Ports	1x WAN (10/100Base-T), 4x LAN (10/100Base-T)
Connectivity Technology	Ethernet, Wireless
Product Dimensions	22 x 17 x 12 inches
Item Weight	2.7 pounds
Manufacturer	LINKSYS
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer
Recommended Use	Home
Special Feature	<i>WPS (Note: While listed, WPS might be limited or not fully functional on older 802.11b devices.)</i>

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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

For technical support, product registration, and additional resources, please visit the official Linksys support website. You may find FAQs, driver downloads, and contact information for customer service there.

Linksys Official Website: www.linksys.com