GL.iNet GL-A1300

GL.iNet GL-A1300 Pocket VPN Travel Router User Manual

Model: GL-A1300 (Slate Plus)

1. Introduction

This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your GL.iNet GL-A1300 Pocket VPN Travel Router. Designed for portability and security, this router offers dual-band Wi-Fi, pre-installed VPN capabilities, and advanced network features to ensure a secure and reliable internet connection wherever you go.

2. Package Contents

Upon unboxing your GL.iNet GL-A1300 router, please ensure all the following items are present:

- GL-A1300 (Slate Plus) router
- Power Adapter (US Plug)
- Ethernet Cable
- User Manual

3. Physical Overview

Familiarize yourself with the ports and indicators on your GL-A1300 router:



Figure 3.1: Front and rear view of the GL.iNet GL-A1300 router, highlighting its WAN, LAN, USB 3.0, and Power ports, along with the mode switch and reset button.

- **WAN Port:** Connects to the internet source (e.g., modem, hotel Ethernet).
- **LAN Ports:** Connects to wired devices (e.g., computers, gaming consoles). The GL-A1300 features multiple Gigabit LAN ports.
- **USB 3.0 Port:** For connecting external storage devices (e.g., USB hard drives) to enable network storage.
- **Power Port:** Connects to the included power adapter.
- **Mode Switch:** A programmable physical toggle switch for quick access to features like VPN client or AdGuard Home. Default setting is no function; configure via the admin panel.
- **Reset Button:** Used to reset the router to factory settings or reboot.
- **Status Bar LED:** Indicates the router's operational status.

4. Setup Guide

4.1 Initial Power-Up

1. Connect the power adapter to the router's Power port and plug it into an electrical outlet.
2. Wait for the Status Bar LED to stabilize, indicating the router is ready.

4.2 Connecting to the Internet

The GL-A1300 supports various internet connection methods:

- **Ethernet Cable (WAN):** Connect an Ethernet cable from your modem or hotel's Ethernet port to the router's WAN port.

- **Wi-Fi Repeater Mode:** Connect the router wirelessly to an existing Wi-Fi network (e.g., hotel Wi-Fi, public hotspot). This allows you to extend the signal and secure all connected devices. The router can handle Wi-Fi networks that require web page logins.
- **Tethering:** Connect your smartphone via USB to share its mobile data connection.

For detailed first-time setup instructions and configuration, please refer to the official GL.iNet documentation available online.

5. Operating the Router

5.1 Dual-Band Wi-Fi Connectivity

The GL-A1300 operates on dual bands (2.4GHz and 5GHz) to provide flexible and high-speed wireless connectivity. It supports wireless speeds of 400Mbps (2.4G) and 867Mbps (5G), ensuring smooth performance for various online activities.

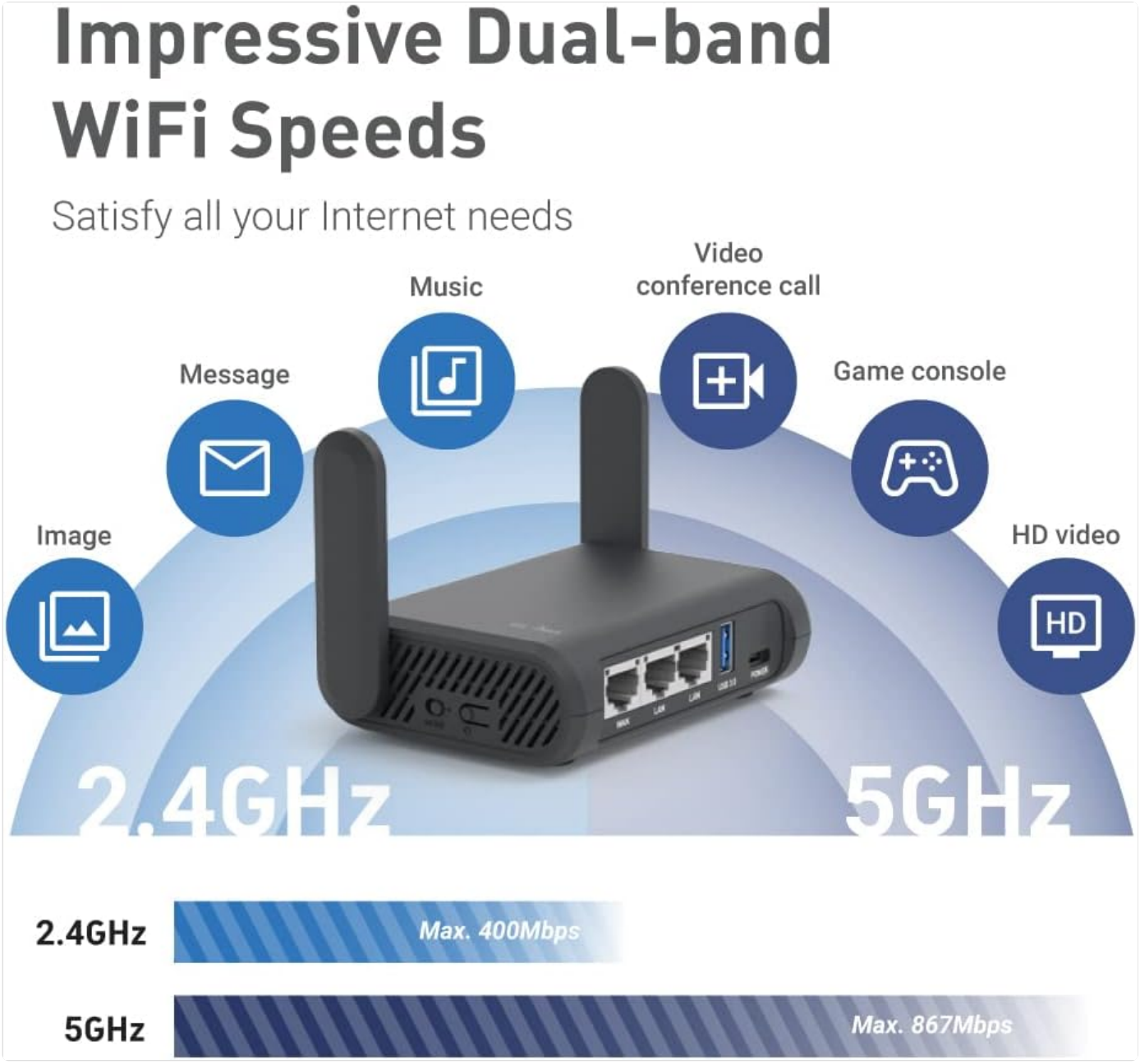


Figure 5.1: The router supports both 2.4GHz and 5GHz bands, catering to diverse device needs and ensuring impressive Wi-Fi speeds for various applications.

5.2 Open Source & Programmable (OpenWrt)

Running on the latest OpenWrt 21.02 operating system, the GL-A1300 offers significant customization options. Users can install various applications and tailor the router's functions to their specific preferences, providing a highly flexible networking solution.

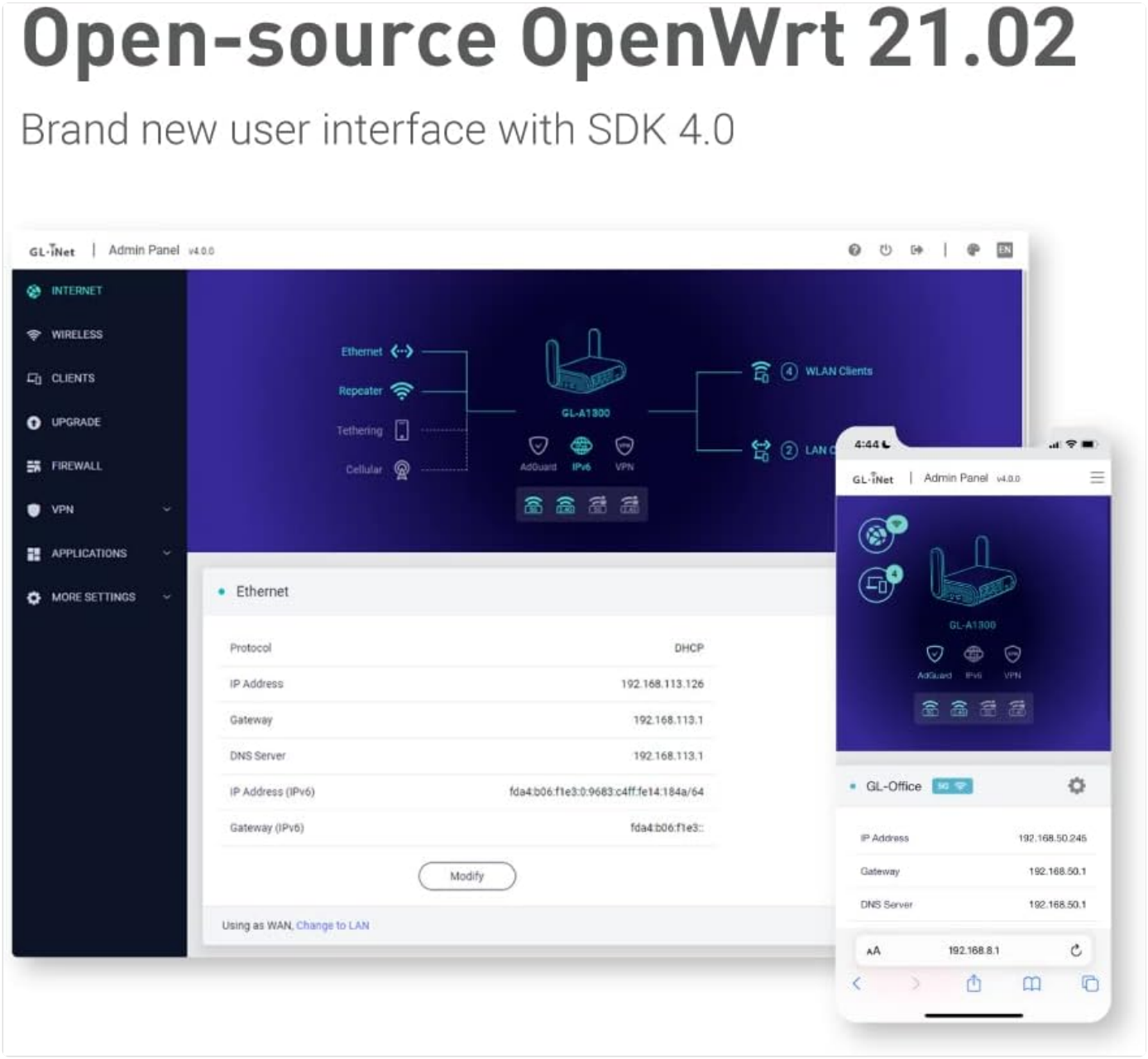


Figure 5.2: The intuitive OpenWrt-based admin panel allows for comprehensive configuration and management of the router's features.

5.3 VPN Client & Server

The router comes with OpenVPN and WireGuard pre-installed, offering compatibility with over 30 VPN service providers. It supports maximum VPN speeds of 28 Mbps (OpenVPN) and 170 Mbps (WireGuard), ensuring secure and fast encrypted connections.



Figure 5.3: The router provides robust VPN performance for secure web browsing.

Key VPN features include:

- **VPN Internet Kill Switch:** If enabled, this feature ensures that devices connected to the router cannot access the internet unless a VPN client (OpenVPN or WireGuard) is actively running, preventing accidental data leaks.
- **VPN Policies:** Allows users to define specific routing policies, enabling VPN usage for certain websites or IPs while maintaining normal internet traffic for others.

5.4 Network Storage

By connecting an external USB hard drive to the router's USB 3.0 port, you can create a private network storage. This feature supports SAMBA and WebDav protocols, allowing you to store and share documents across your network.



Figure 5.4: Easily set up network-attached storage by connecting a USB drive to the router.

5.5 AdGuard Home

AdGuard Home is a network-wide software pre-installed for blocking ads and tracking. Once configured via the online admin panel, it protects all devices connected to your router without requiring client-side software installation.

5.6 Encrypted DNS with Cloudflare

The router supports DNS over TLS, a security protocol that encrypts Domain Name System (DNS) queries and answers. This enhances user privacy and security by preventing eavesdropping and manipulation of DNS data through man-in-the-middle attacks.

5.7 Separating Private Wi-Fi and Guest Wi-Fi

You can create a separate guest Wi-Fi network on your router. This provides internet access for guests without allowing them access to your main home network, significantly increasing your network's security.

6. Maintenance

To ensure optimal performance and security of your GL.iNet GL-A1300 router, regular maintenance is recommended:

- **Firmware Updates:** Regularly check for and install firmware updates. GL.iNet frequently provides updates that introduce new features, improve performance, and enhance security. These can typically be managed through the router's web interface.
- **Physical Cleaning:** Keep the router's vents clear of dust to prevent overheating. Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning the exterior.
- **Secure Passwords:** Periodically change your Wi-Fi and admin panel passwords to strong, unique combinations.

7. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your GL.iNet GL-A1300 router, consider the following common solutions:

- **No Internet Connection:**
  - Check all cable connections (WAN, LAN, Power).
  - Verify that the internet source (modem, hotel network) is active and providing a signal.
  - Reboot the router by unplugging and replugging the power adapter.
  - If using Repeater mode, ensure the router is successfully connected to the upstream Wi-Fi network.
- **Slow VPN Speed:**
  - VPN encryption adds overhead; some speed reduction is normal.
  - Try connecting to a different VPN server location.
  - Ensure your internet service provider (ISP) is not throttling VPN traffic.
- **Cannot Access Admin Panel:**
  - Ensure your device is connected to the router's Wi-Fi or via Ethernet.
  - Try accessing 192.168.8.1 in your web browser.
  - Clear your browser's cache or try a different browser.
- **Hotel Wi-Fi Login Page Not Appearing:**
  - Ensure the router is in Repeater mode and connected to the hotel's Wi-Fi.
  - Try opening a non-HTTPS website (e.g.,example.com) to trigger the captive portal.
  - Some hotel networks may have specific requirements; consult hotel staff if issues persist.

7.1 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **How to set up the Router?**
  All GL.iNet devices have a simple and almost identical setup process. Please check the instructions from our Official Docs for detailed guidance.
- **How does this VPN replace a VPN service? Is the pre-installed as secure as a paid VPN service?**
  The router itself cannot replace a VPN service. You still need to subscribe to VPN service providers to utilize VPN functionality. The pre-installed VPN clients (OpenVPN, WireGuard) provide the means to connect to your chosen VPN service, offering the security benefits of that service.
- **Can it in repeater mode connect with a hotel Wi-Fi that uses a web page for access to its network?**
  Yes, the GL-A1300 can connect to public or hotel Wi-Fi networks that require web page authentication (captive portals).

8. Specifications

Feature	Description
Model Name	GL-A1300 (Slate Plus)
Product Dimensions	4.65 x 3.31 x 1.3 inches (118 x 84 x 33 mm)
Item Weight	15.1 ounces (429g)
CPU	IPQ4018 @717MHz Quad-Core CPU
Wireless Standards	802.11a, 802.11ac, 802.11b, 802.11g, 802.11n
Frequency Band Class	Dual-Band (2.4GHz & 5GHz)
Wireless Speed	400Mbps (2.4G) + 867Mbps (5G)
Ports	1x WAN, 2x LAN (Gigabit Ethernet), 1x USB 3.0, 1x Power (USB-C)
Operating System	OpenWrt 21.02
Max. Connected Devices	Up to 50 devices

9. Warranty and Support

Your GL.iNet GL-A1300 router comes with a**2-year limited warranty** from the manufacturer, GL Technologies. For any product-related inquiries, technical assistance, or warranty claims, please refer to the following resources:

- **Official User Manual (PDF):** Download PDF Manual
- **GL.iNet Official Store:** Visit GL.iNet Store on Amazon
- **Online Documentation:** For the most up-to-date information and detailed guides, visit the official GL.iNet documentation website.

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

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