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› [Netgear Nighthawk 5-Stream AX3600 Dual-Band WiFi 6 Router \(up to 3.45Gbps\) - RAX41 3.5Gbps User Manual](#)

NETGEAR RAX41-100NAS

Netgear Nighthawk 5-Stream AX3600 Dual-Band WiFi 6 Router (RAX41) User Manual

Model: RAX41-100NAS

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your NETGEAR Nighthawk 5-Stream AX3600 Dual-Band WiFi 6 Router (RAX41). This router is designed to deliver high-speed, reliable wireless connectivity for your home network.

Built with WiFi 6 technology, the NETGEAR Nighthawk AX5 5-Stream AX3600 WiFi Router provides speeds up to 3.45 Gbps, enabling faster connections, streaming, and downloads for newer mobile devices. Its powerful 1.5 GHz triple-core processor ensures superior performance for concurrent real-time applications such as multimedia streaming, online gaming, and audio/video chats. WiFi 6 technology, with 160 MHz channel support, is engineered to deliver up to 4 times the data capacity over previous standards, allowing more devices to connect and stream simultaneously without impacting speed or reliability. High-power amplifiers extend range for reliable whole-home network coverage. This router is recommended for 2 to 3 bedroom homes, suitable for up to 25 connected devices.



Figure 1: Front view of the Netgear Nighthawk AX3600 WiFi 6 Router.

2. SETUP GUIDE

Follow these steps to set up your Nighthawk RAX41 router and establish your home network.

2.1 Unboxing and Physical Setup

1. **Unpack Contents:** Carefully remove the router, power adapter, Ethernet cable, and four external antennas from the box.
2. **Attach Antennas:** Screw the four external antennas onto the connectors on the router. Ensure they are securely fastened.
3. **Position the Router:** Place the router in a central location in your home, away from obstructions and electronic devices that may cause interference.

4 gigabit wired connections and support for internet plans up to 1 Gbps



Figure 2: Rear view of the Nighthawk RAX41 Router, showing 4 Gigabit Ethernet LAN ports, 1 USB 3.0 port, and the Internet (WAN) port.

2.2 Connecting to Your Modem

1. **Power Off:** Disconnect power from your modem and router (if you have an existing one).
2. **Connect Ethernet Cable:** Connect one end of the provided Ethernet cable to the yellow Internet (WAN) port on your new RAX41 router. Connect the other end to the Ethernet port on your modem.
3. **Power On Modem:** Power on your modem and wait for its indicator lights to stabilize (usually indicating an active internet connection).
4. **Power On Router:** Connect the power adapter to the router and plug it into a power outlet. Wait for the router's power LED to turn solid white.

2.3 Initial Configuration (Nighthawk App Recommended)

The easiest way to set up your router is by using the NETGEAR Nighthawk app.

1. **Download App:** Download the Nighthawk app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store on your mobile device.

2. **Connect to Router's WiFi:** On your mobile device, connect to the router's default WiFi network. The WiFi network name (SSID) and password are printed on the label on the router.
3. **Launch App:** Open the Nighthawk app and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the setup process, including creating a NETGEAR account and configuring your WiFi network name and password.

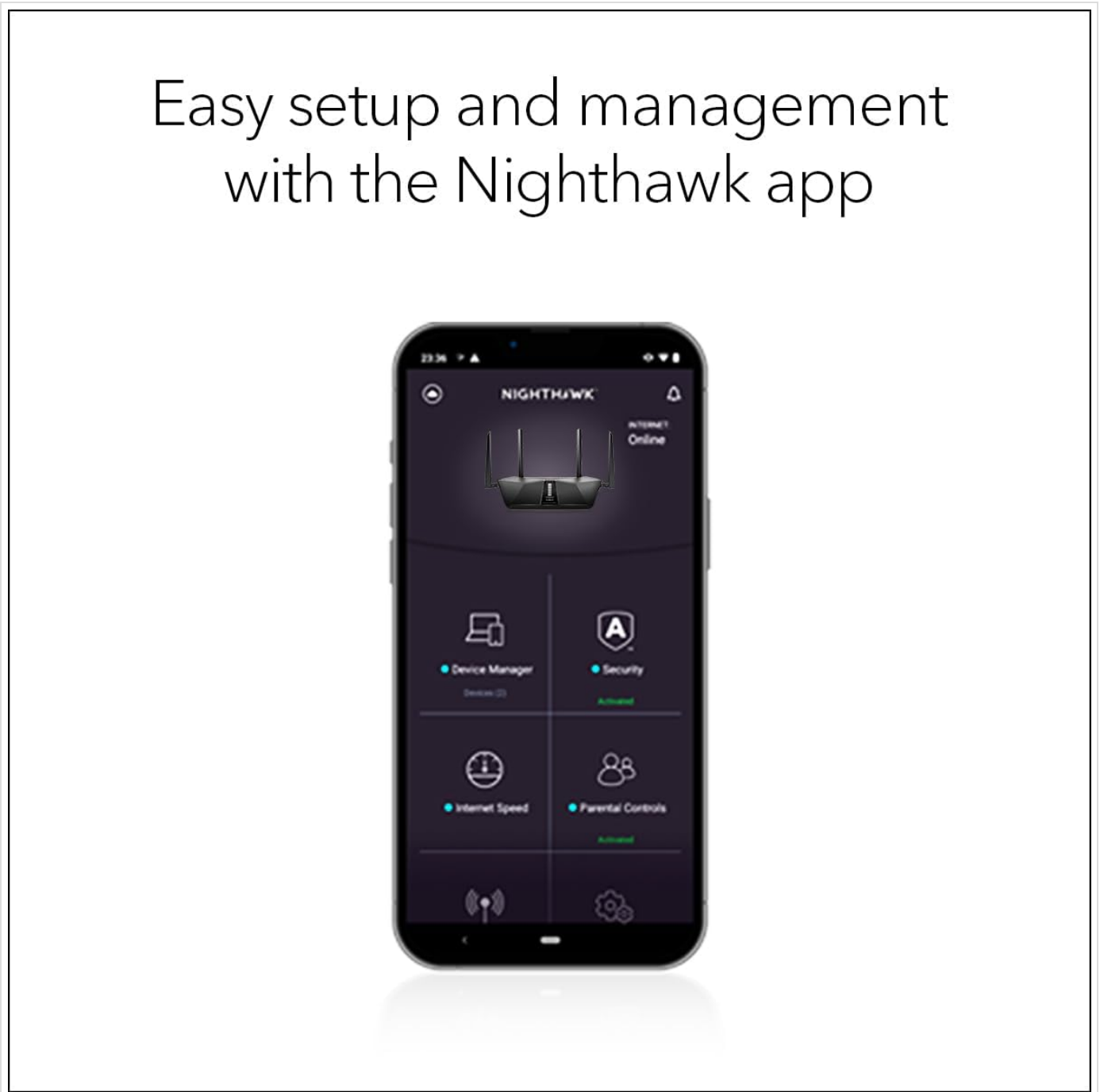


Figure 3: The Nighthawk app provides easy setup and management of your router.

Alternatively, you can use a web browser for setup by connecting a computer to the router via Ethernet or WiFi and navigating to www.routerlogin.net.

2.4 Understanding Your WiFi Router and Modem

This video provides a helpful overview of how WiFi routers and modems work together to provide internet in your home.



Video 1: An informational video explaining the role of a WiFi router and modem in a home network, including internet speed considerations and compatibility.

3. OPERATING YOUR ROUTER

Once set up, your Nighthawk RAX41 router provides a robust wireless network. Here's how to manage its operations.

3.1 Connecting Devices

- **Wireless Devices:** On your smartphone, tablet, or laptop, search for available WiFi networks and select the network name (SSID) you configured during setup. Enter your WiFi password to connect.
- **Wired Devices:** For devices like desktop computers, gaming consoles, or smart TVs, connect an Ethernet cable from the device to any of the four yellow Gigabit Ethernet LAN ports on the back of the router.



Figure 4: The Nighthawk RAX41 supports fast streaming and gaming with WiFi 6 speeds up to 3.45 Gbps.

3.2 Managing Your Network

Use the Nighthawk app or the web interface (www.routerlogin.net) to:

- Change WiFi settings (SSID, password, security type).

- View connected devices.
- Set up guest WiFi networks.
- Configure parental controls.
- Access advanced settings like port forwarding and VPN.

The router features a powerful 1.5GHz triple-core processor, ensuring fast and smooth 4K UHD streaming, gaming, and video-conferencing.

4. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance helps ensure optimal performance and longevity of your router.

- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check for and install firmware updates through the Nighthawk app or router web interface. Firmware updates often include performance improvements, security patches, and new features.
- **Regular Reboot:** Reboot your router once a month by unplugging the power adapter for 10 seconds and then plugging it back in. This can resolve minor connectivity issues and improve performance.
- **Physical Cleaning:** Keep the router clean and free from dust. Ensure ventilation openings are not blocked to prevent overheating.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your router, try these common troubleshooting steps.

- **No Internet Connection:**
 - Check all cable connections between the modem and router.
 - Reboot both your modem and router.
 - Verify your internet service is active with your Internet Service Provider (ISP).
- **Slow WiFi Speed:**
 - Ensure your devices are connected to the 5 GHz band for faster speeds if supported.
 - Reduce interference by moving the router away from other electronics.
 - Check for firmware updates.
 - Consider your internet plan speed; ensure it matches your usage needs.
- **Connection Drops:**
 - Try changing the WiFi channel in your router settings to avoid interference.
 - Ensure the router is not overheating.
 - Update device drivers on your connected devices.
- **Factory Reset:** If problems persist, you may need to perform a factory reset. Locate the Reset button (usually a small pinhole) on the back of the router. With the router powered on, use a paperclip to press and hold the Reset button for about 7-10 seconds until the power LED blinks. This will restore the router to its factory default settings, requiring re-setup.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Nighthawk RAX41 WiFi 6 Router



3.45 Gbps
WiFi speed

2,250 sq. ft.
coverage

25
concurrent
devices

Figure 5: Key performance metrics of the Nighthawk RAX41 Router.

Technical Specifications - NETGEAR Nighthawk RAX41

Feature	Detail
Model Name	RAX41-100NAS
Wireless Type	802.11ax (WiFi 6)
Frequency Band Class	Dual-Band (2.4 GHz and 5 GHz)
WiFi Speed	Up to 3.45 Gbps (574Mbps + 2882Mbps)
WiFi Coverage	Up to 2,250 sq. ft.
Connected Devices	Up to 25 devices

Processor	Triple-core 1.5GHz Processor
Ethernet Ports	4 Gigabit Ethernet LAN ports, 1 Gigabit Ethernet WAN port
USB Ports	1 USB 3.0 port
Dimensions (LxWxH)	11.6 x 8.1 x 2.2 inches
Item Weight	1.25 pounds
Operating System	Netgear proprietary operating system
Included Components	NETGEAR Nighthawk AX5/AX3600 WiFi 6 Router (RAX41), Ethernet cable, 4 external antennas, Quick start guide, Power adapter

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

NETGEAR provides various support options for your Nighthawk router.

- **Manufacturer Warranty:** Refer to the warranty information included with your product packaging for details on the manufacturer's warranty period and terms.
- **Online Support:** For additional support, FAQs, and troubleshooting guides, visit the official NETGEAR support website. You can also find information at the [NETGEAR Store on Amazon](#).
- **NETGEAR Armor™:** Your router may include a trial of NETGEAR Armor powered by Bitdefender, offering advanced cybersecurity features. Check the Nighthawk app for details on activating and managing this service.

NETGEAR[®]
ARMOR[™]

POWERED BY
Bitdefender[®]

A powerful suite of tools to help keep you safe online. Includes 30-day trial.

✓ Cybersecurity

✓ VPN

✓ Extended Warranty

✓ Priority Support



Figure 6: NETGEAR Armor provides a suite of tools for online security.