

Wi-Fi checklist: 10 steps to a faster, more stable network

Go through the list top to bottom - most households find the culprit in the first five items.

- ☐ **Router up high and in the open**
Not in a cabinet, behind the TV or near the floor. As high as possible, in open space, aimed at the centre of the flat or floor.
- ☐ **Away from interference**
Microwave, fridge, mirrors, an aquarium and thick load-bearing walls absorb or disturb the signal. Keep at least a metre away.
- ☐ **Devices near the router on 5 GHz**
The 2.4 GHz band is crowded in dense housing. 5 GHz is faster and cleaner; leave 2.4 GHz to distant and older devices.
- ☐ **One network name (band steering)**
A single network for both bands - the router switches devices itself. Keep separate “_2G/_5G” networks only if you know why.
- ☐ **Measure and change the channel**
Neighbouring networks interfere with each other. Use a Wi-Fi analyser app to find a freer channel and switch the router to it.
- ☐ **Update the router firmware**
Fixes bugs, speeds things up and above all patches security holes. Old firmware = an open door.
- ☐ **Cable whatever you can**
TV, console, the computer next to the router - by cable. You free up Wi-Fi for devices that cannot have one.
- ☐ **Check the cables (8 wires)**
Old 4-wire cables cap the speed at 100 Mbit/s. Gigabit needs all 8 wires (Cat5e and better).
- ☐ **A repeater? Better not**
A wireless booster halves the speed and adds dropouts. Floors are covered by a cabled access point or a proper mesh.
- ☐ **Measure before and after**
Run a speed test over cable and over Wi-Fi before and after the changes. The difference shows where the speed is lost.

Still not right after the checklist? We will measure the coverage and design a network for you.

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