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Subject: Re: Wireless Routing

Posted by [cmatt42](#) on Fri, 27 Jul 2007 00:09:26 GMT

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Whatever you do, don't opt out for one of those cheapy \$20 or Netgear routers. I have a Linksys WRT54G, and the only time it's given me trouble was when I did something to it; I've encountered many Netgear routers which gave me headaches not working one hour and working just fine the next with nothing changed.

As for gaming, my laptop on the wireless connection tends to have slightly better ping than my desktop did wired, but that's probably because I had extra things running such as mIRC. I've reformatted recently, but I can't tell any difference since I'm away from home on vacation.

There is a noticeable reduction in download speed, even less than 10 feet away (my laptop is about that far from my router usually). At 30 feet and with some walls in between (which you didn't mention) you'll probably take quite a hit in speed. You can always have the router near computers that you want to have a more reliable connection and wire them up; network cables can get pretty cheap if you know where to look.

One thing you want to prepare for is security. Generally, you shouldn't have a problem with neighbors getting on your network and hogging your bandwidth or performing malicious attacks from your network... but it's better to be safe than sorry. Depending on where you live should dictate what kind of security you'll need. If you live in a fairly sizable city, you'll definitely want strong protection. In a suburban area, you can be more slack, and if your nearest neighbor is a two minute's drive away, you should be fine with the bare minimum.

Basically, when setting up the router, go into the wireless security section, set the mode to WPA (not WEP, that's easily crackable now). If it has different encryption methods such as TKIP or AES, it doesn't really matter what you choose. After that, you have to set up a passphrase which your wireless clients will have to enter to join your network. You'll want to make a random string of numbers and letters just like any other password, just don't forget it. After that, apply the settings, enter in the passphrase when it's asked for, and you should be all set.

Well, I've covered quite a bit. If you want to know more, please do ask.

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