

# FINDING UNAUTHORIZED DEVICES ON YOUR NETWORK.

Sometimes, an abuser might add new devices to a wireless network in order to monitor or harass their victim. For example, cameras, microphones, and connected-home devices are relatively easy to conceal and may be used to listen in on conversations.

In many cases, those devices are connected to the home's wifi network, which meant they can be discovered by logging into the router. This guide will discuss how to do that.

**Please note: logging into the router as the administrator will leave a record. It will show that someone logged in, but won't show who.**

if possible, you should look for connected devices any time you're concerned that your conversations may be monitored. At the very least, you should do look for any connected devices left behind if your abusive partner leaves the home permanently.

## **Option 1: Using Your Router's Web Interface**

Your router is the device, often provided by your internet service provider, that connects you to the internet. It's normally a black or silver box with network ports on the back, status lights on the front, and it probably has an antenna or two on it. If you're having trouble finding it, you can call your ISP and they'll tell you what to look for.

The router has a a web interface that can be accessed by the user in order to make basic configuration changes. The instructions for doing this may have been provided with the documents provided by your ISP. If not, you'll first need to know the IP address or URL to access it.

*If you're having trouble finding the address, here's a quick way to do that in Windows:*

1. 1. open up a command prompt by typing "CMD" in your computer's run or search windows bar, and select "Command Prompt"
2. 2. In the black box that appears, type "ipconfig" without the quotes

3. This will bring up a list of information about your network connections. Note the one that says "Default Gateway." It will probably start with a 10 or a 192

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Addressator C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
Ethernet adapter Ethernet:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix . : hsd1.at.comcast.net
IPv6 Address . . . . . : 2501:7c1:198:ef69::ba33
IPv6 Address . . . . . : 2501:7c1:198:ef69:b6ad:ed57:dbc0:2c1e
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::b5ed:ed57:dbc0:2c1e%4
IPv4 Address. . . . . : 10.0.0.75
Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
Default Gateway . . . . . : fe80::9e34:26ff:fe2d:94ac%4
                          10.0.0.1

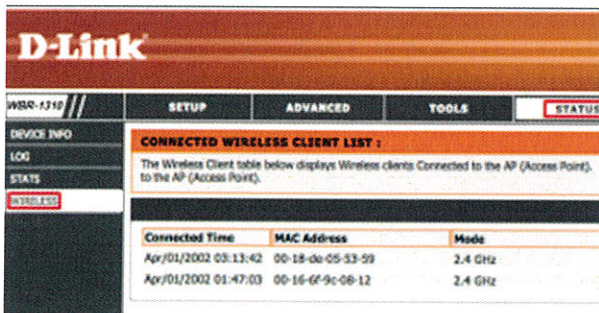
Ethernet adapter VMware Network Adapter VMnet1:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::e555:fb41:5af7:12d2%33
  
```

Once you have the interface address, type that number into the browser's address bar, where you would normally type in a website address. This will take you to the web interface login screen. The username and password, if it hasn't been changed, will be found in the documentation provided with the router. If it's been changed or if you don't know that information, contact your ISP and they'll help you recover the information. You might also find the default login information online by searching "default login" and your router model number.

The specific location for this information may vary depending on the model and brand of router, but it will generally be under a link, tab, or button called "attached devices," "connected devices," or "DHCP clients." You'll probably find this on the wifi configuration page or on the status page. This may also be on the main screen for some devices.

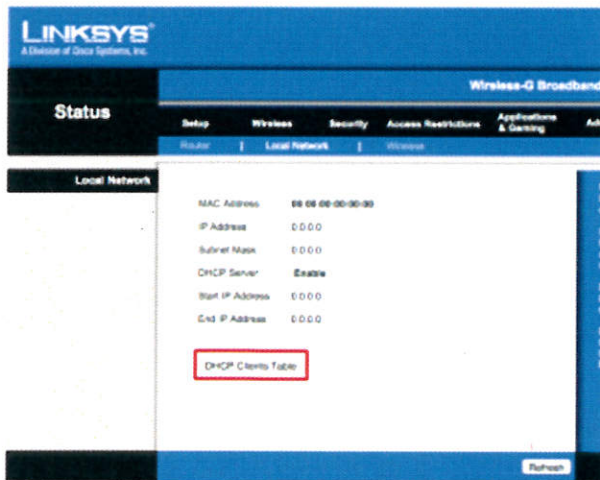
On may D-Link brand routers, this can be found by clicking Status, then Wireless.



For Many Netgear routers, this is under the Attached Devices tab in the sidebar



On many Linksys routers, you'll find this option under Status > Local Network > DHCP Clients Table.



On Comcast Xfinity routers, you'll find the list under Connected Devices in the sidebar.



Refer to your system documentation for any wireless devices that will need to be reauthorized, such as smart TVs, cell phones, home surveillance systems, etc.

### **Option 3: Ask Your Service Provider for Help**

If you're not comfortable or are having trouble logging into the router, contact your service provider and explain to them that you're concerned about unauthorized devices and unauthorized access. They also have an interest in making sure that no one can use your network without your permission, so they will be able to assist you. They may send out a technician that will help confirm your settings and identify any rogue devices.

### **Option 4: Reset Your Router**

If you're not able to access your router's web interface, you can reset it to the default settings. This will re-enable the default passwords as well, which will be noted in the device documentation, affixed to the router itself, or may be found online.

The process for each device may vary, and can be found in the device documentation or online. In most cases, there's a small hole on the back of the router that says "reset." Unplug the device. A small pin or paperclip can be used to press the button inside the hole; hold it down for 30 seconds, then remove the pin. Plug in the device again, and it should be reset to its default configuration.

Note that any custom configurations or passwords, including for WiFi access, will be removed and will have to be re-added.