

Setting up Wireless Encryption on a Linksys Router

With your MCC Broadband connection it is not necessary to run the Router's setup CD. Unless otherwise specified you are running a DHCP connection type that does not require the setup of the router's wizard. Running the wizard will oftentimes make the connection un-usable. Use the advanced or manual setup when setting up your new router.


1. Open up your web browser (Internet Explorer or Firefox) and log into your router with a computer that is directly plugged into the router by typing in the router's IP address in your browser's Address Bar. By default this IP address is **192.168.1.1**

You should be prompted with a login screen asking for a username and password.



By default there should be nothing listed for the username and the Password is **admin**.

2. Upon entering the password you will encounter the Basic Setup Screen



3. Select **“Wireless”** from in-between Setup and Security.

The screenshot shows the Linksys WRT54G configuration interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Setup', 'Wireless', 'Security', 'Access Restrictions', 'Applications & Gaming', 'Administration', and 'Status'. The 'Wireless' section is active, and the 'Basic Wireless Settings' sub-tab is selected. The main content area is titled 'Wireless Network' and contains the following settings:

- Wireless Network Mode: Mixed
- Wireless Network Name (SSID): MCC
- Wireless Channel: 11 - 2.462GHz
- Wireless SSID Broadcast: Enable Disable

Below these settings is a wireless signal icon and the text 'Status : SES Inactive' with a 'Reset Security' button. A right-hand sidebar provides a 'Wireless Network Mode' explanation. At the bottom, there are 'Save Settings' and 'Cancel Changes' buttons.

4. Select **“Wireless Security”** found between Basic Wireless Settings and Wireless Mac Filter.
5. In the **“Security Mode”** drop down select **“WPA2 Personal”**.

The screenshot shows the Linksys WRT54G configuration interface with the 'Wireless Security' sub-tab selected. The 'Security Mode' dropdown menu is open, showing the following options:

- Disabled
- WPA Personal
- WPA Enterprise
- WPA2 Personal
- WPA2 Enterprise
- RADIUS
- WEP

The 'WPA2 Personal' option is highlighted. A right-hand sidebar provides a 'Security Mode' explanation. At the bottom, there are 'Save Settings' and 'Cancel Changes' buttons.

6. From the “WPA Algorithms” select either TKIP+AES or just AES and enter in at least 8 characters for the WPA Shared Key.*
Select “Save Settings”.

The screenshot shows the Linksys WRT54G configuration interface. The top header includes the Linksys logo and 'A Division of Cisco Systems, Inc.' on the left, and 'Firmware Version: v8.00.5' on the right. Below this is a navigation bar with 'Wireless-G Broadband Router' and 'WRT54G'. A main menu has 'Wireless' selected, with sub-menus for 'Setup', 'Wireless', 'Security', 'Access Restrictions', 'Applications & Gaming', 'Administration', and 'Status'. Under 'Wireless', there are links for 'Basic Wireless Settings', 'Wireless Security', 'Wireless MAC Filter', and 'Advanced Wireless Settings'. The 'Wireless Security' page is active, showing fields for 'Security Mode' (set to WPA2 Personal), 'WPA Algorithms' (set to TKIP+AES), 'WPA Shared Key' (an empty text box), and 'Group Key Renewal' (set to 3600 seconds). A help box on the right explains the security mode options. At the bottom, there are 'Save Settings' and 'Cancel Changes' buttons, and the Cisco logo.

7. You have now successfully set up a powerful encryption on your wireless connection and each device that connects wirelessly will need to be configured to re-login to the network using the WPA Shared Key that was established.
Once it is connected one time there is no need to re-enter the Key.

*Some routers and wireless equipment may not allow WPA2 security. For these using WPA or WEP are the only encryption methods available. For more information on Linksys routers visit <http://support.linksys.com>