

NAPLES COMPUTERS HOW-TO • NETWORKS & WI-FI

Slow Wi-Fi at Home? Fixes, and When Mesh Wi-Fi Helps

Slow or spotty Wi-Fi usually comes down to a few things: your internet plan, where the router sits, interference, which band you're on, and an aging router. This guide walks through the fixes to try first, shows how to check your Wi-Fi band on Windows 11, and explains when a mesh Wi-Fi system (we install TP-Link Deco, EnGenius and Ubiquiti) is worth it.

Step by step

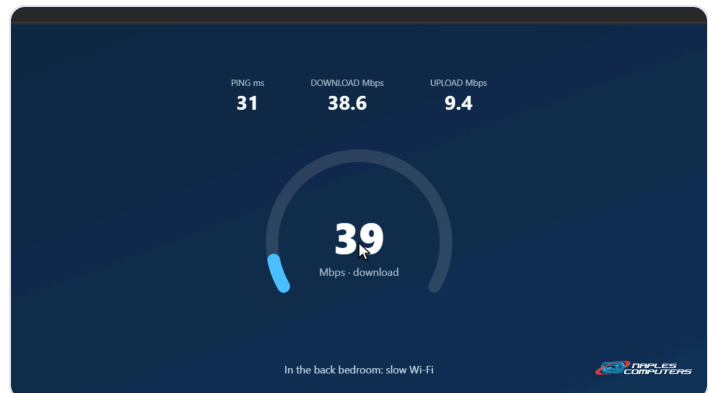
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Step 1: Run a speed test, in two places

Use a free speed test such as speedtest.net or fast.com. Compare the result to the internet plan you pay for.

WHAT TO DO

Test next to the router, then in the slow room. Slow even next to the router? It may be your internet service, not your Wi-Fi.

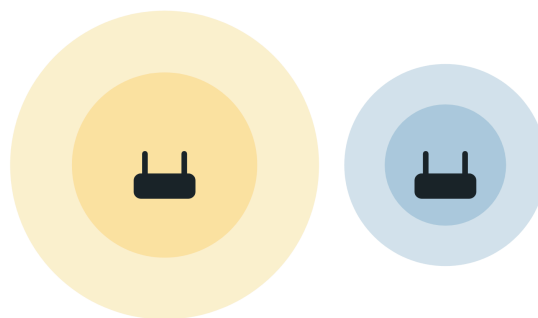


4 Step 4: 2.4 GHz or 5 GHz?

2.4 GHz reaches farther through walls, but it's slower and more crowded. 5 GHz is much faster at shorter range. Newer Wi-Fi 6E and Wi-Fi 7 routers add 6 GHz.

WHAT TO DO

Close to the router? Use 5 GHz. Far away? 2.4 GHz may be steadier, or it's time for mesh.



2.4 GHz

Farther, slower

5 GHz

Faster, shorter range

2.4 GHz = range · 5 GHz = speed

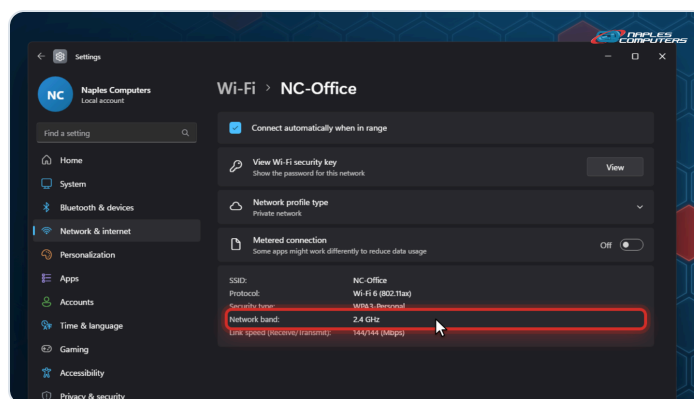
WINDOWS 11

4a Windows 11: check which band you're on

Settings → Network & internet → Wi-Fi → your network's properties. Look at Network band.

WHAT TO DO

Near the router but on 2.4 GHz? Join the 5 GHz network, or ask us to set up one name for both bands.



MESH WI-FI

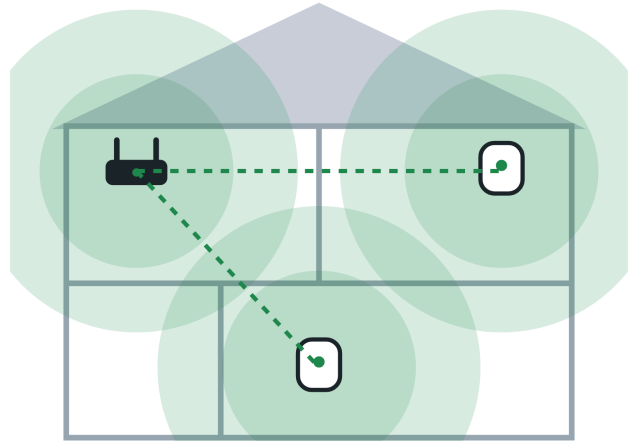


Mesh Wi-Fi: one network, the whole house

A mesh system uses two or three units around your home that work together as one network, with one name and password.

WHAT TO DO

The brands we install: TP-Link Deco, EnGenius and Ubiquiti. Put the main unit at the modem, and the others about halfway to the slow rooms.



Mesh: strong Wi-Fi in every room

TP-Link Deco · EnGenius · Ubiquiti

Step 2: restart the modem & router

- ☐ Unplug the modem and router
Pull the power cords, not just a button
- ☐ Wait 30 seconds
Let them fully power down
- ☐ Plug in the modem first
Wait until its lights settle, a minute or two
- ☐ Then the router, then test again
Give it a couple of minutes to come back

Step 3: give your router a better spot

- ☐ Central, high, and in the open
Not on the floor, in a cabinet, or in the garage
- ☐ Away from interference
Microwaves, fish tanks, mirrors and metal
- ☐ Block walls block Wi-Fi
Common in Florida homes: one router often can't cover it all

Other common causes

- ☐ An old router
Four or five years or older? Newer Wi-Fi is faster and handles more devices
- ☐ Lots of devices
Phones, TVs, cameras and smart speakers all share the same Wi-Fi
- ☐ Outdated router firmware
Updates fix bugs and security holes. Turn on automatic updates.
- ☐ Your internet plan
If the speed test is slow next to the router, talk to your provider

Is mesh right for you?

- ☐ Large or two-story homes
Or block walls between rooms
- ☐ Your internet plan is slow
Mesh can't add speed you don't pay for
- ☐ Dead zones in far rooms
Back bedrooms, the lanai, the garage
- ☐ A small condo, router nearby
A better spot or newer router may be enough
- ☐ Wired backhaul, if you can
An Ethernet cable between units is fastest

Business tip: office-grade Wi-Fi

- ☐ Ceiling-mounted access points
Wired, and powered over the network cable (PoE)
- ☐ Managed from one dashboard
We install TP-Link Omada, Ubiquiti UniFi and EnGenius
- ☐ Separate guest and staff networks
VLANs keep visitors away from your business data
- ☐ Start with a site survey
So every room and desk gets strong coverage

Recap: faster Wi-Fi

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Speed test, near and far | ☐ 5 GHz when close to the router |
| ☐ Restart modem, then router | ☐ Old router? Time to upgrade |
| ☐ Central, high, in the open | ☐ Big house or block walls? Mesh |

Many Southwest Florida homes have concrete block walls that stop Wi-Fi cold. A properly placed mesh system (TP-Link Deco, EnGenius or Ubiquiti), ideally with a cable between units, fixes most dead zones. For offices, we design and install business-grade access points (TP-Link Omada, Ubiquiti UniFi, EnGenius) with separate guest networks.



Want Wi-Fi that reaches every room, at home or at the office?

Call 239-513-1960

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