

09/21/09 - What Wireless Router Do You Recommend?



The latest wi-fi standard, 802.11n, has been in draft for the last couple of years, and even with its major bandwidth and range improvements, there have been lingering problems with stability. The 802.11n standard is finally wrapping up for publication, but I'm still seeing mixed reviews on all of the major brands. You can buy a 802.11n router and get one that's pretty stable, but you could also get an identical model that has stability issues. With the publication of the standard, hopefully it won't be too much longer before things stabilize. In the meantime, don't get discouraged. Most DSL and cable internet connections won't max out the speed of an 802.11g router, and the range is also usually sufficient if the router is strategically positioned. Try to position your router somewhere near the center of your house, and give the antennas clearance. Instead of putting your router underneath your computer desk, position it behind your monitor, or somewhere up high. The direction of the antennas can also make a difference, but straight up is usually best.

The Linksys WRT54GL is probably the most stable router of all time. On Newegg.com, it's won 27 customer choice awards, the most reviews, and the best overall rating. If you want to plug in your router, and forget about it, this one is for you.

<http://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.aspx?Item=N82E16833124190>