



USER GUIDE



MU-MIMO GIGABIT ROUTER

Model#EA8500

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Product overview

EA8500

Front view



 Power Indicator — The Linksys logo stays on steadily while connected to the Internet. It flashes or pulses slowly during bootup, self-testing and firmware upgrades. It flashes quickly when indicating connection errors.

Back view



• Adjustable external antennas—This router ships with four adjustable external antennas that should be connected to the router before powering it on. To connect the antennas, twist the antenna clockwise onto the antenna connector on the router.

NOTE

For best performance, position the side antennas vertically as shown in the picture.

- USB 3.0 port—Connect and share a USB drive or USB printer on your network or on the Internet.
- USB 2.0/eSATA combo port—Connect and share a USB/eSATA drive or a USB printer on your network or on the Internet.

- Ethernet ports—Connect Ethernet cables (also called network or Internet cables) to these Gigabit Ethernet (10/100/1000) ports and to other wired devices on your network.
- Ethernet activity indicators—Green light is on when there is a wired connection. Yellow light blinks while the router is sending or receiving data.
- Internet port—Connect an Ethernet cable to this port and to your modem.
- Internet activity indicators—Green light is on when there is a wired connection. Yellow light blinks while the router is sending or receiving data.
- Wi-Fi button—Press to enable/disable the wireless function.
- Wi-Fi indicator—Lights up green when wireless function is on.
- Wi-Fi Protected Setup[™] (WPS) button—Press to easily configure wireless security on Wi-Fi Protected Setup-enabled network devices. For more information, see "Wireless Security" on page 6.
- Wi-Fi Protected Setup[™] (WPS) indicator—LED blinks slowly while accepting Wi-Fi Protected Setup connections. LED blinks quickly when there is a Wi-Fi Protected Setup error.
- **Reset button**—Press and hold until all port lights blink at the same time to reset the router to its factory defaults.
- **Power**—Connect the included AC power adapter to this port.
- Power switch—Press | (on) to power on the router.

Setting Up Your Router

Where to find more help

- Linksys.com/support/EA8500 (documentation, downloads, FAQs, technical support, live chat, forums)
- Linksys Smart Wi-Fi (linksyssmartwifi.com; click Help at the top of the screen)

NOTE

Licenses and notices for third party software used in this product may be viewed on http://support.linksys.com/en-us/license. Please contact http://support.linksys.com/en-us/gplcodecenter for questions or GPL source code requests.

How to install your router

Note: If replacing an existing router, disconnect that router first.

- 1. Connect the antennas (if included) and plug in the router to a power source. Press power switch to | (on) to power on the router. (Not all routers have power switches.)
- 2. Connect the Internet cable from your modem to the yellow Internet port on the back of your router. Wait until the power indicator on your router is solid.
- 3. Connect to the secure wireless name shown in the Quick Start Guide that came with your router. (You can change these details later.) Select the option to automatically connect to this network in the future. You will not have Internet access until you complete router setup (see Step 4).
- 4. Open a web browser to launch the Linksys Smart Wi-Fi Router setup instructions. If you don't see the instructions, type linksyssmartwifi.com in the address bar.

At the end of setup, follow the on-screen instructions to set up your Linksys Smart Wi-Fi account. Use Linksys Smart Wi-Fi to manage your router's settings, including:

- Change your router's name and password
- Set up guest access
- Configure parental controls
- Connect devices to your network
- Test your Internet connection speed



NOTE

As part of Linksys Smart Wi-Fi account setup, you will be sent a verification e-mail. Make sure that you open the e-mail from Linksys and click the provided link, and log in from a device connected directly to the router.

How to connect to Linksys Smart Wi-Fi

- 1. Open a web browser and go to **www.linksyssmartwifi.com**.
- 2. Enter the e-mail address and password you set up earlier and click **Sign in**.

How to change router settings

NOTE

For additional help on any menu, click Help at the top of the screen.

- Open Linksys Smart Wi-Fi and log in to your account.
- In the menu on the left, click an option:

Network Map — Lets you display and manage all network devices connected to your router. You can view devices on your main network and your guest network, or display information about each device.



Guest Access — Lets you configure and monitor a network that guests can use without accessing all of your network resources.

Cuest access allows without owner owner of a your wirefees guest network and access the Internet, without giving access to your other connect to your wirefees guest network and access the Internet, without giving access to your other connect to your wirefees guest network and access the Internet, without giving access to your other connect to your guest network access. To constant the Internet, without giving access to your other connect to your guest network access to your guest should first connect to your guest network open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser, and then enter the guest part open a web browser	Guest Acce	:55		Show widget on the homepage
Vour guest should first connect to your guest shoul			ccess the Internet, withou	đ
Guest network names and password Edit Image: Second se	Allow guest access			
Guest network names and password Edit 2.4 GHz SBID Linkoys00135-gues1 Network: Enabled 5 GHz SBID: Linkoys00135_5GHz-guest Network: Enabled Cuest network password: BedyGuest	OFF			
Network: Enabled 5 GHz SSID: Linksys00135_5GHz-guest Network: Enabled Coest network password BeMyGoest Total guests allowed	Guest network nam	es and password Edit	open a v	veb browser, and then enter the guest passwo
5 GHz 56ID; Linksys00135_5GHz-guest Network: Enabled Guest network password: BeMyGuest Total guests allowed	2.4 GHz SSID	Linksys00135-guest		
Network: Enabled Guest network password: BeMyGuest Total guests allowed	Network:	Enabled		
Guest network password BeMyGaest	5 GHz 6SID:	Linksys00135_5GHz-guest		
Total guests allowed	Network:	Enabled		
-	Guest network passwo	d BellyGuest		
5 guests *	Total guests allowe	1		
	5 guests 🔻			

Parental Controls — Lets you block web sites and set Internet access times.

nable parental controls	Block Internet access
MIKSAWYE WS Jerault MacBook jeraults iPod android db18851990b76401 Network Device Network Device	Never Always Specific Times Block specific sites Add

Media Prioritization — Lets you set which devices and applications have top priority for your network traffic.

Prioritization:	Reset Prioritization Settings	
High Priority		
android-db	1885199 🚍	
🤝 Network De	vice	-
MIKSAWYE	-WS =	
Normal Priority	Drag and drop devices to prio	itize
Normal Priority Devices		itize Applications Edit Delete
Devices	łacBook	Applications Edit Delete

Speed Test — Lets you test your network's Internet connection speed.



External Storage — Lets you access an attached USB drive (not included) and set up file sharing, a media server, and FTP access.

External Storage	Show widget on the homepage
Connect an external storage device to your network and configure how i	asers can access its contents.
Status Folder Access FTP Server Media Server	
External Storage Drive	Secure Folder Access is OFF
External storage volume name: sda1	Any user can access content via shared folders
External storage volume name, sgan	PC access (File explorer): \(192.168.20.1 Mac access (Finder): smb://192.168.20.1
Space used: 54 MB used of 122 MB total.	
Safety remove drive Retresh	FTP Server is OFF Content is not accessible to any user via FTP.
	FTP server. Disabled
	Media Server (DLNA) is ON
	Media content is accessible to DLNA dients.
	DLNA server: LinksysAC1900
	Ok

Connectivity View and change router settings 1 Basic Internet Settings Local Network Advanced Rooting Administration Network Name and Password | Edit Firmware Update 2.4 GHz network name (SSID) Linksys00135 Automatic (Current Version: 1.1.7.160227) Network password: irvine131 Check for Updates -5 GHz network name (SSID) Linksys00135_5GHz Time Zone Network password: invine131 (GMT-08:00) Pacific Time (USA & Canada) . Automatically adjust for Daylight Savings Time Router Password | Edit °0 Rouler password Activity Lights • Enable/disable activity lights. Power light will remain on. ON 1 1 OF Cancel Apply

Connectivity — Lets you configure basic and advanced network settings.

Troubleshooting — Lets you diagnose problems with your router and check the status of the network.

Status Diagnostics	Logs			
Devices Report				
Name	MAC address	IPv4 address	Connection	Refresh
MIKSAWYE-WS	00:21:6A:6D:71:E0	192.168.20.50	Wireless	Open in browse
Jerault-MacBook	70:56:81:98:78:69	192.168.20.43	LAN	
jerauits-iPod	00:06:10:19:A0:3A	192.168.20.41	Wireless	Print
android-db1885199bb76461	38.AA.3C.D9.A1.9A	192.168.20.20	Wireless	
Network Device	00:27:13:87:98:40	192.168.20.24	LAN	
Network Device	B6:75:0E:1E:1D:E4	192.168.20.58	LAN	
Name	MAC address	IPv6 address	Connection	
MIKSAWYE-WS	00 21 6A 6D 71 E0	fe80.0000.0000.0000.78e7 9d56.cb39.3436	Wireless	DHCP dient lab
android-db1885199bb76461	38:AA:3C:D9:A1:9A	fe80:0000:0000:0000:3aaa: 3cftfed9:a19a	Wireless	

Wireless — Lets you configure your router's wireless network. Among the settings you may change are network name (SSID), security mode, password, MAC filtering, and connect devices using Wi-Fi Protected Setup.

Wireless	IAC Filtering Wi-Fi Protect	ed Setup Vire	less Scheduler				
Network name:	My Home Network	2.4 GHz				Network:	ON
Password:	password	Broadcast SSID:	Yes		Channel:	Auto	
Security mode:	WPA2/WPA Mixed Per	Network mode:	Mixed	•	Channel width:	Auto	
Network name:	My Home Network_5GH	5 GHz				Network	ON
Password:	password	Broadcast \$SID:	Yes		Channet	Auto	1
Security mode:	WPA2/WPA Mixed Per-	Network mode:	Mixed		Channel width:	Auto	

Security — Lets you configure your router's wireless security. You can set up the firewall, VPN settings, and make custom settings for applications and games.

Firewall DMZ	Apps and Gaming			
Firewall		Internet filte	rs	
IPv4 SPI firewall protection	Enabled	Filter and	nymous Internet requests	
IPv6 SPI firewall protection	Enabled	🔲 Filter mul	lticast	
VPN Passthrough		Filter Inte	met NAT redirection	
IPSec Passthrough	Z Enabled	Filter ider	nt (Port 113)	
PPTP Passthrough	Enabled			
L2TP Passthrough	Z Enabled			
IPv6 Port Services				
Description	Protocol	IPv6 Address	Allow	Enabled
				Add IPv6 Firev

Troubleshooting

This chapter can help you solve common setup issues and connect to the Internet. You can find more help from our award-winning customer support at linksys.com/support.

Your router was not successfully set up

If Linksys Smart Wi-Fi did not complete the setup, you can try the following:

Press and hold the **Reset** button on your router with a paperclip or pin until the LED starts flashing (about 10 seconds), then install the router again.



If you still haven't set up the router, find another computer, and use that computer to install the router again.

Windows XP Service Pack update

On Windows XP computers, Linksys Smart Wi-Fi requires Service Pack 3. If the currently installed Service Pack is older than version 3, you need to download and install Service Pack 3.

NOTE

To temporarily connect to the Internet and download the required Service Pack, you can use the included Ethernet cable to connect your computer directly to your modem.

To Install Service Pack 3:

- 1. Connect to the Microsoft Update website (update.microsoft.com/windowsupdate).
- 2. Follow the instructions on the website or contact Microsoft if you need further help.
- 3. After downloading and installing Service Pack 3, install the router again.

Your Internet cable is not plugged in message

If you get a "Your Internet cable is not plugged in" message when trying to set up your router, follow these troubleshooting steps.

Make sure that an Ethernet cable (or a cable like the one supplied with your router) is securely connected to the yellow **Internet** port on the back of the router and to the appropriate port on your modem. This port on the modem is usually labeled **Ethernet**.



Back view of router



Back view of cable modem



Back view of DSL modem

Make sure that your modem is connected to power and is turned on. If it has a power switch, make sure that it is set to the **ON** or **I** position.

If your Internet service is cable, verify that the cable modem's **CABLE** port is connected to the coaxial cable provided by your ISP.

Or, if your Internet service is DSL, make sure that the DSL phone line is connected to the modem's **DSL** port.

If your computer was previously connected to your modem with a USB cable, disconnect the USB cable.

Install the router again.

Cannot access your router message

To access your router, you must be connected to your own network. If you have wireless Internet access, the problem may be that you have accidentally connected to a different wireless network.

To fix the problem on Windows computers:

1. On your Windows desktop, right-click the wireless icon in the system tray. The icon can differ depending on your version of Windows.



2. Click **View Available Wireless Networks**. A list of available networks appears.

Disable
Status
Repair
View Available Wireless Networks
Change Windows Firewall settings
Open Network Connections

3. Click your own network name, and click **Connect**. In the example below, the computer was connected to another wireless network named *JimsRouter*. The name of the Linksys EA8500 network, *BronzeEagle* in this example, is shown selected.



4. If you are prompted to enter a network key, type your password (Security Key) into the **Network key** and **Confirm network key fields**. Click **Connect**.

	equires a network key (also called a WEP key or WPA key). <i>i</i> unknown intruders from connecting to this network.
ype the key, and then click	Connect.
letwork <u>k</u> ey:	•••••
C <u>o</u> nfirm network key:	•••••
Confirm network key:	•••••

5. You should be able to access the router.

To fix the problem on Mac computers:

In the menu bar across the top of the screen, click the Wi-Fi icon. A list of wireless networks appears. Linksys Smart Wi-Fi has automatically assigned your network a name.

In the example below, the computer was connected to another wireless network named *JimsRouter*. The name of the Linksys EA8500 network, *BronzeEagle* in this example, is shown selected.

AirPort: On	
Turn AirPort Off	
√JimsRouter	0
Home	(e
BronzeEagle	ê 🔅
BronzeEagle-guest	((:
Penguin	• 🛜
RD	6 🗟
Join Other Network	
Create Network	
Open Network Preferences	

Click the wireless network name of your Linksys EA8500 (*BronzeEagle* in the example).

Type your wireless network password (Security Key) into the **Password** field, and click **OK**.



Specifications

Linksys EA8500

Model Name	Linksys AC2600 MU-MIMO Gigabit Router
Model Number	EA8500
Switch Port Speed	10/100/1000 Mbps (Gigabit Ethernet)
Radio Frequency	2.4 GHz and 5 GHz
# of Antennas	4 external adjustable antennas, 1 internal antenna
Ports	Power, Internet, Ethernet (1-4), USB 3.0, USB 2.0 / eSATA combo
Buttons	Reset, Wi-Fi Protected Setup, Wi-Fi, Power
LEDs	Power, Internet, Ethernet (1-4), Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Protected Setup
UPnP	Supported
Security Features	WEP, WPA2, RADIUS
Security Key Bits	Up to 128-bit encryption
Storage File Systems Support	FAT, NTFS, and HFS+
Browser Support	Latest versions of Google Chrome, Firefox, Safari (for Mac and iPad), and Internet Explorer versions 8 and newer

Environmental

Dimensions	10.09" x 2.21" x 7.22" (256.3 x 56.2 x 183.5 mm) without antennas
Unit Weight	20.67 oz (586 g) without antennas 25.22 oz (715 g) with antennas
Power	12V, 3.5A
Certifications	FCC, IC, CE, Wi-Fi (IEEE 802.11a/b/g/n/ac), Windows 7, Windows 8, DLNA
Operating Temp.	32 to 104°F (0 to 40°C)
Storage Temp.	-4 to 140°F (-20 to 60°C)
Operating Humidity	10 to 80% relative humidity, non-condensing
Storage Humidity	5 to 90% non-condensing

Notes

For regulatory, warranty, and safety information, see the CD that came with your router or go to Linksys.com/support.

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

Maximum performance derived from IEEE Standard 802.11 specifications. Actual performance can vary, including lower wireless network capacity, data throughput rate, range and coverage. Performance depends on many factors, conditions and variables, including distance from the access point, volume of network traffic, building materials and construction, operating system used, mix of wireless products used, interference and other adverse conditions. Visit <u>linksys.com/support</u> for award-winning technical support

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