

Router administration and configuration

- **Category:** Technical skills
- **Activity Description:**
Changing your router's password
- **Aims (What are you going to learn?):**
At the end of this lesson you will be able to:
 - Login and inspect your router's settings
 - Change the default password

- **What are you going to need?**

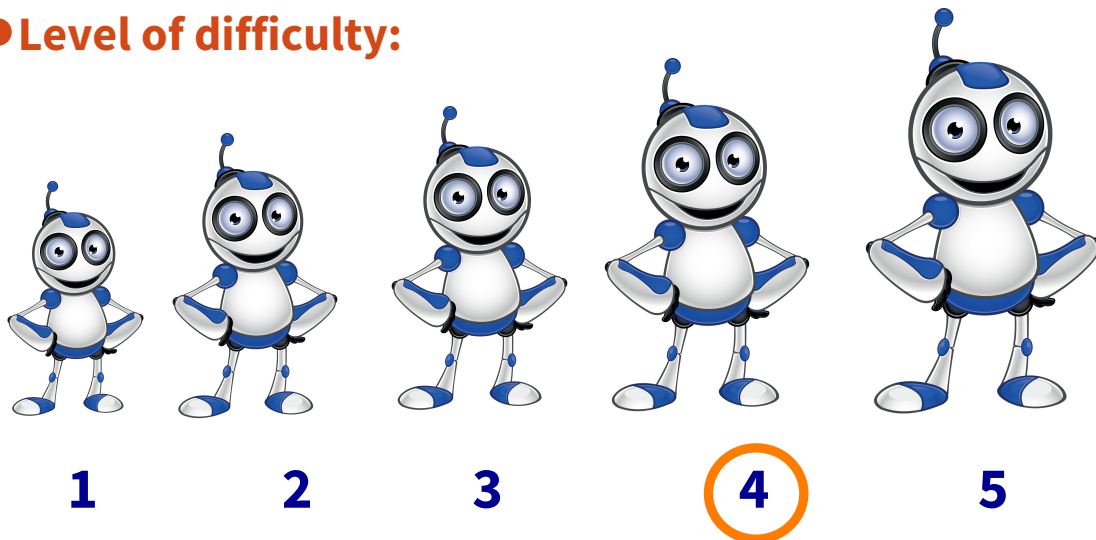
- Software:**

- Web browser
 - Command line

- **Audience/target group:** Adults

- **Time needed:** 15 minutes

- **Level of difficulty:**



- **Before we start we need to ensure that the user has:**

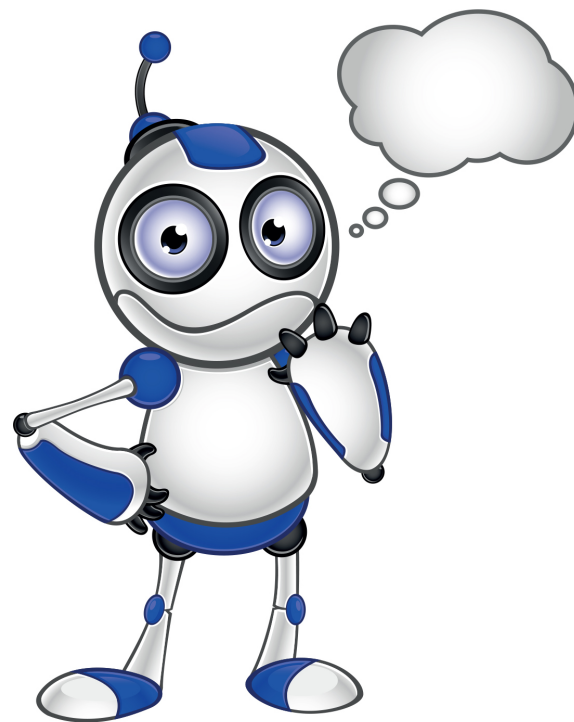
- intermediate skills of web navigation
 - knowledge of what an IP address is

YOUR HOME ROUTER

The home router is a quite misunderstood device. It has now become part of the home's furniture, sleeplessly and tirelessly fulfilling a very important job: making sure you are connected to the Internet.

Yet, it is not appreciated...the majority of the households have never spent any time to check up on this great device. We only tend to look at it when there are less lights flashing and bleeping, when we lose Internet connectivity.

It is important to familiarize with the settings and get some experience in administering and troubleshooting, if needed. One critical yet simple action is to change the default password, to protect both the users and the router from bad guys.



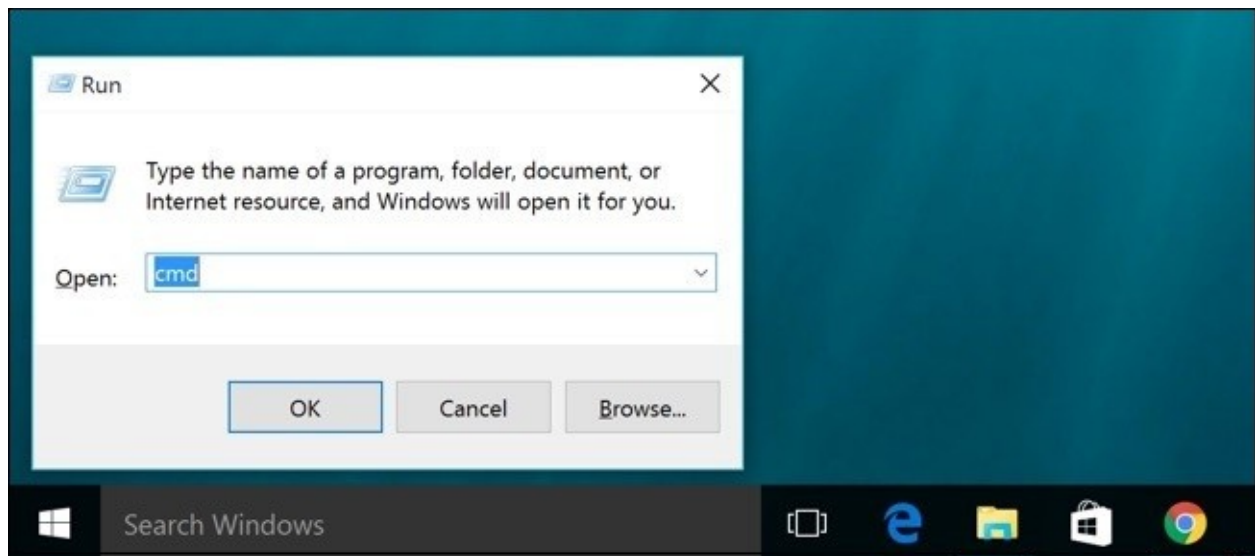
STEPS TO CHANGE THE ROUTER'S DEFAULT PASSWORD

The precise steps may differ depending the make and model of the router. The popular Linksys router is used as an example, but the process is more or less the same.

1. First need to find the IP address of your router. There are two ways of doing this:

1a. Through the windows command line:

Press Windows+R to open “Run” box. Type “cmd” and then click “OK” to open a regular Command Prompt. Type “cmd” and then press Ctrl+Shift+Enter to open an administrator Command Prompt.



In the command box type: **ipconfig /all:**

```
Administrator: C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7600]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\03>ipconfig/all
```

Type "ipconfig/all" then press [Enter].

Your router's IP address is shown as the **"Default Gateway"**:

```
Administrator: C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

Wireless LAN adapter Wireless Network Connection 9:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . . : 
    Description . . . . . : Compact Wireless-G USB Network Adapter
    Physical Address. . . . . : 00-23-69-04-B9-E3
    DHCP Enabled. . . . . : Yes
    Autoconfiguration Enabled . . . . : Yes
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::854:76da:ebd6:8028%26(Preferred)
    IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.2.102(Preferred)
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Lease Obtained. . . . . : Thursday, October 1, 2010 10:10:10 AM
    Lease Expires . . . . . : Friday, October 2, 2010 10:10:10 AM
    Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.2.1
    DHCP Server . . . . . : 192.168.2.1
    DHCPv6 IAID . . . . . : 536879977
    DHCPv6 Client DUID . . . . . : 00-01-00-01-13-5B-1
    DNS Servers . . . . . : 192.168.2.1
    NetBIOS over Tcpip. . . . . : Enabled

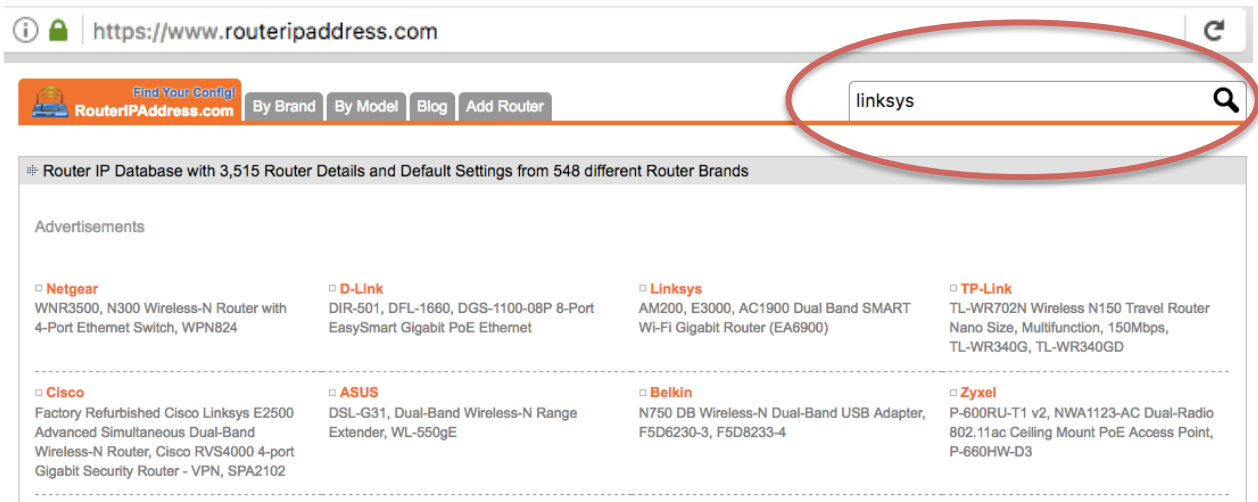
Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection:

    Media State . . . . . : Media disconnected
    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . . :
```

Take note that the **Default Gateway** is the router's IP address.

1b. Through a public online database:

Open a web browser, e.g. **Google Chrome** and type the web address (link) <https://www.routeripaddress.com/> to visit the website, as shown in the image below. In the search field type your router's make:



Find the right model and click on it. The router's IP will most likely be noted as **Default IP Address**:



Can you also see the Default username and password? This is why we need to change it!



2. Open a web browser, e.g. **Google Chrome** and type the IP address that you have noted in the previous steps <https://192.168.1.1/>. This will take you to your router's management page and will ask you for the username and password:

A screenshot of a Windows-style login dialog box. The title bar is blue and says "Connect to 192.168.1.1". There is a question mark icon and a close button (X) in the top right corner. The main area has a light beige background. On the left, there is a yellow key icon. Below it, there are two labels: "User name:" and "Password:". To the right of "User name:" is a text box with a small user icon and a dropdown arrow. To the right of "Password:" is a text box. Below the password box is a checkbox labeled "Remember my password". At the bottom, there are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

3. The username and password tuple is either **admin admin**, **linksys linksys**, blank username and **admin** for password, or it can be printed on a sticky label at the back of your router. Upon typing the correct combination you will logon to the admin pages of the router. Click on Administration/ Management:

Address <http://192.168.1.1/Manage.htm> Go

LINKSYS
A Division of Cisco Systems, Inc. Firmware Version: v1.00.1

Administration Wireless-G Broadband Router WRK54G

Setup Wireless Security Access Restrictions Applications & Gaming Administration Status

Management Log Diagnostics Factory Defaults Firmware Upgrade Config Management

Router Password

Local Router Access

Password:

Re-enter to confirm:

Web Access

Access Server: ☒ HTTP ☐ HTTPS

Wireless Access Web: ☒ Enable ☐ Disable

Remote Router Access

Remote Management: ☐ Enable ☒ Disable

Management Port:

Use https: ☐

UPnP

UPnP: ☒ Enable ☐ Disable

Local Router Access: You can change the Router's password from here. Enter a new Router password and then type it again in the Re-enter to confirm field to confirm.

Web Access: Allows you to configure access options to the router's web utility. [More...](#)

Remote Router Access: Allows you to access your router remotely. Choose the port you would like to use. You must change the password to the router if it is still using its default password.

UPnP: Used by certain programs to automatically open ports for communication. [More...](#)

Lesson Assessment

Aims	Yes	No		
Can I find the IP address of my router?				
Can I discover the login information to access my router?				
Can I change the router password?				