

NIGHTHAWK

User Manual

WiFi 7 Extender

Models:

EXS18

EXS25

EXS27

202-12956-01

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For 6 GHz devices not designed for outdoor use: Only use the device indoors. The operation of 6 GHz devices is prohibited on oil platforms, cars, trains, boats, and aircraft, except that operation of this device is permitted in large aircraft while flying above 10,000 feet. Operation of transmitters in the 5.925-7.125 GHz band is prohibited for control of or communications with unmanned aircraft systems.

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Overview

The WiFi Range Extender boosts your existing network range and speed, delivering seamless WiFi coverage on more devices throughout your home.

This chapter covers the following topics:

- [Unpack your extender](#)
- [LEDs](#)
- [Side and bottom panels](#)
- [System Requirements](#)
- [How the Extender Works](#)



NOTE: For more information about the topics covered in this manual, visit the support website at support.netgear.com.

Unpack your extender

Your package contains an extender only.

Figure 1. Extender package contents



LEDs

The following table describes the LEDs.



Figure 2. Front panel

Table 1.LED descriptions

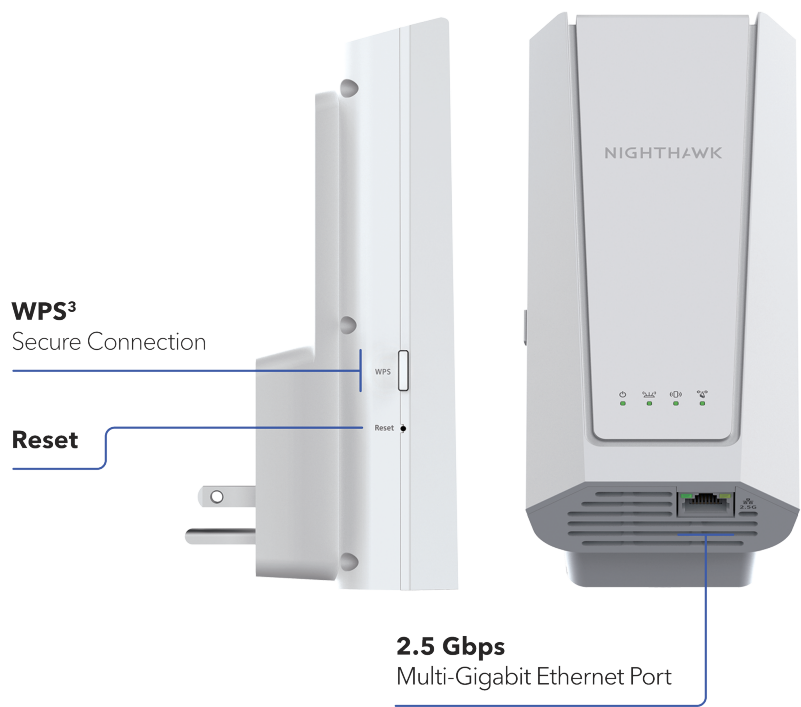
LED	Description
Power LED 	• Solid amber. The extender is booting. • Solid green. The extender is powered on. • Off. The extender is powered off.
Router Link LED 	This LED indicates the WiFi connection between the extender and the router. • Solid green. Best connection. • Solid amber. Good connection. • Solid red. Poor connection. • Off. No connection.
Client Link LED 	This LED indicates a connection between the extender and a WiFi-enabled computer or mobile device. • Solid green. Best connection. • Solid amber. Good connection. • Solid red. Poor connection. • Off. No connection.

LED	Description
WPS LED 	• Blinking green. A WPS connection is being established. • Solid green. The extender is connected to the router WiFi network, and the extender network is set up with WiFi security (either WPA, WPA2, or WPA3 WiFi security). • Off. The extender network is set up without WiFi security.

Side and bottom panels

The side panel of the extender has a WPS button and a Reset button. The bottom panel has an Ethernet port.

Figure 3. Buttons and ports



³ Works with devices supporting WPS.

The side and bottom panels contain the following buttons and ports:

1. **WPS button.** Pressing the **WPS** button connects the extender to your existing WiFi network using WPS. You can also connect WPS-enabled devices to the extender using the **WPS** button.
2. **Reset button.** Pressing this button resets the extender. If the **Reset** button is pressed for at least seven seconds, the Power LED blinks amber, and the extender returns to its factory settings.
3. **Ethernet port.** Use an Ethernet cable to connect the 2.5G Multi-Gig Ethernet RJ-45 LAN port to a device that has a LAN Ethernet port.

System Requirements

You need the following to install your extender:

- 2.4 GHz or 5 GHz 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac/ax/be wireless router or gateway
- Compatible web browser:
 - Microsoft Internet Explorer® 8.0 or higher
 - Firefox 2.0 or higher
 - Safari 5.1 or higher
 - Google Chrome 25.0 or higher

How the Extender Works

The extender works like a bridge between a WiFi router (or a WiFi access point) and a WiFi device outside the range of the WiFi router. The extender performs two main jobs:

- The extender connects to a working WiFi network. When the extender connects over WiFi to an existing network, it functions as a network client, similar to how a WiFi device connects to a network.
- The extender acts as an access point for WiFi devices. The extender broadcasts its own WiFi network that WiFi devices can join. In its role as an access point, the extender performs tasks that WiFi routers do, such as broadcasting its network name (SSID).

The extender must do each of these jobs so that both ends of the bridge are in place.

Get started

This chapter covers the following topics:

- [Connect to extend an existing WiFi network](#)
- [Use the extender in access point mode](#)
- [Connect a device to the extender network](#)
- [Log in to the extender after installation](#)
- [Run the Smart Setup installation](#)

Connect to extend an existing WiFi network

To extend the range of your WiFi network, you must connect the extender to your existing router's WiFi network.

 **NOTE:** If your router's WiFi security is set to WPA-Enterprise, WPA2-Enterprise, or WEP, your extender can't connect to your router. Change your router's WiFi security to WPA-Personal, WPA2-Personal, or WPA3 before proceeding with setup.

You can connect your extender to your router's WiFi network using one of the following methods (from most secure to least secure):

1. **Web browser using <https://mywifiext.local>:** This method uses a secure connection to set up your extender through a web browser. Because the security certificate is self-signed, your browser might display a warning during your first connection. Continue past the warning to proceed. For instructions, see [Connect with the extender web interface](#) on page 7.
2. **Nighthawk app setup:** If you have an iOS or Android mobile device, you can use the Nighthawk app to set up your extender quickly and securely. For instructions, see [Connect with the Nighthawk app](#) on page 6.
3. **Wi-Fi Protected Setup (WPS):** If your router has a WPS or Sync button, Wi-Fi Protected Setup (WPS) connects your extender to your existing network with the press of a button. For instructions, see [Connect with WPS](#) on page 6.
4. **Web browser using <http://mywifiext.local> (not recommended):** This method does not use a secure connection and should only be used with legacy devices that do not support other setup methods. For instructions, see [Connect with the extender web interface](#) on page 7.

 **IMPORTANT:** When configuring WiFi security settings for your extender, select WPA3 (if supported) or WPA2 security. Using WPA security or no WiFi security might make your network more vulnerable to cyberattacks.

Connect with the Nighthawk app

The NETGEAR Nighthawk app is an excellent way to both set up and manage your extender. You can connect your extender to your router using the Nighthawk app.



NOTE: If you experience trouble setting up your extender with the Nighthawk app, we recommend WPS setup. For more information, see [Connect with WPS](#) on page 6.

To connect with the Nighthawk app:

1. Download the Nighthawk app on your mobile device.



For more information about the Nighthawk app, visit [Nighthawk-app.com](https://nighthawk-app.com).

2. Plug in your extender.
3. On your mobile device, open the WiFi settings, then locate and connect to the NETGEAR_EXT WiFi network.
4. Launch the Nighthawk app.
5. Follow the step-by-step instructions to set up your extender.

Connect with WPS

If your router has a WPS or Sync button, Wi-Fi Protected Setup (WPS) connects your extender to your existing network with the press of a button.



NOTE: WPS does not support hidden SSID networks. If your existing WiFi network's SSID is hidden, follow the instructions in [Connect with the extender web interface](#) on page 7.

To connect with WPS push-button setup:

1. Plug in your extender and wait for the Power LED to light solid green.

2. Locate the **WPS** button on your extender and router.
3. Press the **WPS** button on your extender.
4. Within two minutes, press the **WPS** or **Sync** button on your router.
When the extender connects to your existing WiFi network, the WPS LED on the extender lights.
If the Router Link LED lights green, the connection between the router and extender is good.
If the Router Link LED lights amber or red, move the extender closer to the router and try again.
5. After the Router Link LED lights solid green, repeat steps 3 and 4 to connect the second WiFi band.
6. Connect to your network and visit <http://mywifiext.local> to register your device, set up a NETGEAR account, and get the latest updates.
Setup is complete!

Connect with the extender web interface

You can use the NETGEAR installation assistant to connect your extender to your existing WiFi router network. To use the NETGEAR installation assistant, you must launch a web browser on your computer or mobile device.

To use the NETGEAR installation assistant to connect the extender to your WiFi router:

1. Plug in your extender and wait for the Power LED to light solid green.
2. On your WiFi-enabled computer or mobile device, open the WiFi connection manager and locate and connect to the extender network called NETGEAR_EXT.
3. Launch a web browser and enter <http://mywifiext.local/>.
4. Click or tap **New Extender Setup**.
5. Choose an administrator username and password for your extender.
These are used to access your extender's settings with a web browser.
We recommend setting the default username to **admin** and choosing a password that is different from your WiFi network password.
6. Select and answer two security questions from the drop-down menus and click or tap NEXT.
These questions are used to recover your extender's username and password if you forget them.
7. When prompted how to set up your extender, click or tap **WiFi Extender**.
For information about setting up your extender as an Access Point, see [Use the extender in access point mode](#) on page 8.

8. Select your existing network's WiFi network names (SSIDs) and click or tap NEXT.
If you do not see your networks, click or tap **See More**.
9. Enter your existing network's password and click or tap NEXT.
10. (Optional) If you would like your extender to broadcast different SSIDs and require different passwords from your main network, clear the **Enable One WiFi Name** checkbox and enter your desired values, then click or tap NEXT.
We recommend that you leave **One WiFi Name** enabled for the best experience.
11. Connect your WiFi devices to the displayed networks, select the confirmation checkbox, then click or tap CONTINUE.
Your extender is now expanding your network's coverage.

Use the extender in access point mode

You can use the extender as a WiFi access point, which creates a new WiFi hotspot by using a wired Ethernet connection.



Figure 4. Extender in access point mode

To use the extender in access point mode:

1. Plug in your extender and wait for the Power LED to light solid green.
2. Use an Ethernet cable to connect a LAN port on your router to the Ethernet port on the extender.



NOTE: Do not connect your extender directly to your DSL or cable modem. The extender does not function as a router. If your network includes a DHCP server, you can connect the extender to a switch or hub that is connected to the DHCP server.

3. On your WiFi-enabled computer or mobile device, open the WiFi connection manager and locate and connect to the extender network called NETGEAR_EXT.

4. Launch a web browser and enter <http://mywifiext.local/>.
5. Click or tap **New Extender Setup**.
6. Choose an administrator username and password for your extender.
These are used to access your extender's settings with a web browser.
We recommend setting the default username to **admin** and choosing a password that is different from your WiFi network password.
7. Select and answer two security questions from the drop-down menus and click or tap **NEXT**.
These questions are used to recover your extender's username and password if you forget them.
8. When prompted how to set up your extender, click or tap **Access Point**.
The extender detects your Internet connection.
9. When prompted, set the network name (SSID), security option, and password, and click or tap **NEXT**.
We recommend that you leave **Smart Connect** enabled for the best experience.
Your settings are applied and the extender is ready to be used as an access point.

Connect a device to the extender network

After you complete the setup process, you can connect all your devices to the new extender network using a WiFi or WPS connection.

Connect a device to the extender network using WiFi

If you enabled the One WiFi Name feature, your extender uses the the same WiFi network name and password as your router.

To connect to the extender WiFi network:

1. On your WiFi-enabled computer or mobile device, open the WiFi connection manager that manages your WiFi connections.
The WiFi connection manager scans for WiFi networks in your area.
2. Find and select your extender's WiFi network name (SSID) and enter your extender's WiFi password.
This is the SSID and password that you set up during the installation process. If you enabled the One WiFi Name feature, use your router's SSID and password.

Connect a device to the extender network using WPS

For help with the **WPS** button on your WPS-enabled device, see the instructions or online help that came with the device. Some older equipment cannot use WPS.

To connect to the extender using a WPS connection:

1. Press the **WPS** button on the extender until the WPS LED blinks green.
2. Within two minutes, press the **WPS** button on your WPS-enabled device.
The WPS LED lights solid green when the extender connects to the device.

Log in to the extender after installation

After installation, you can log in to the extender to view or change its settings.

To log in to the extender:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.

If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).

For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.

A login page displays.

Run the Smart Setup installation

You can use Smart Setup to change the extender settings. Smart Setup provides an easy way to connect the extender to a different router or to change the extender WiFi network name (SSID) or WiFi password.

To run Smart Setup:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.

If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).

For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.

A login page displays.

3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. Click the **SMART SETUP** button.
5. Follow the prompts.

Extender Network Settings

This chapter covers the following topics:

- [Enable or disable the One WiFi Name feature](#)
- [Enable or disable Smart Connect](#)
- [Enable or disable MU-MIMO](#)
- [View connected devices](#)
- [View WiFi settings](#)
- [Change the WiFi network name](#)
- [Turn off the SSID broadcast to create a hidden network](#)
- [Disable or enable the WiFi radios](#)
- [Change the WiFi speed](#)
- [Set up a guest WiFi network](#)
- [Use WPS to add a computer to the extender's WiFi network](#)
- [Use WPS with the push button method](#)
- [Deny access to a computer or WiFi device](#)
- [Set up an access schedule](#)
- [Change the extender's device name](#)
- [Set up the extender to use a static IP address](#)
- [Configure a router with advanced MAC settings to work with your extender](#)

Enable or disable the One WiFi Name feature

The One WiFi Name feature enables the extender to use the same WiFi network settings as the router.

If you enable the One WiFi Name feature, the extender uses the same WiFi network names and passwords as the router.

The following example shows WiFi network names when the One WiFi Name feature is enabled:

Table 2.One WiFi network names

Router or extender WiFi network name	WiFi network name
Router 2.4 GHz WiFi network name	MyWiFiExample
Router 5 GHz WiFi network name	MyWiFiExample-5G
Extender 2.4 GHz WiFi network name	MyWiFiExample
Extender 5 GHz WiFi network name	MyWiFiExample-5G

**NOTE:** If you enable the One WiFi Name feature and the router 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz networks use different network names, you cannot enable the Smart Connect feature.

To enable or disable the One WiFi Name feature:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.
The WiFi Settings page displays.

6. Select the **Yes** or **No** radio button to enable or disable the One WiFi Name feature.
 - **Yes.** Enables the One WiFi Name feature. If this is the first time you are enabling the One WiFi Name feature, you must run Smart Setup. Go to the Status page and click the **SMART SETUP** button.
 - **No.** Disables the One WiFi Name feature. If you disable this feature, you can set a new SSID and password for the extender 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz networks in the **Network Name (SSID)** and **WiFi Password** fields.
7. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Enable or disable Smart Connect

The Smart Connect feature selects the fastest WiFi band for WiFi devices to connect to. To enable Smart Connect, the extender 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz networks must use the same network name and password.



NOTE: If you enabled the One WiFi Name feature and the router 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz networks use different network names, you cannot enable Smart Connect. You can enable Smart Connect only if the extender 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz WiFi networks use the same network name.

To enable or disable Smart Connect:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.
The WiFi Settings page displays.

6. Select the **Yes** or **No** radio button to enable or disable Smart Connect.

- **Yes.** Enables Smart Connect.



NOTE: To use this feature, the 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz networks must use the same SSID and password.

- **No.** Disables Smart Connect. You can then set different SSIDs and passwords for the extender 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz networks in the **Network Name (SSID)** and **WiFi Password** fields.

7. Click the **SAVE** button.

Your settings are saved.

Enable or disable MU-MIMO

Multuser multiple input, multiple output (MU-MIMO) improves performance when many MU-MIMO-capable WiFi clients transfer data simultaneously. For MU-MIMO to function, WiFi clients must support MU-MIMO and must be connected to a 5 GHz WiFi band. This feature is enabled by default, but you can disable it.

To enable or disable MU-MIMO:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.

If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).

For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.

A login page displays.

3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.

4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.
The extender menu displays.

5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.
The WiFi Settings page displays.

6. Enable or disable MU-MIMO.
 - **Enable MU-MIMO.** Select the **Yes** radio button.
 - **Disable MU-MIMO.** Select the **No** radio button.

7. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

View connected devices

You can view a list of devices that are connected to the extender network.

To view connected devices:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Connected Devices**.
The Connected Devices page displays.
The devices connected to the extender display on the page.

View WiFi settings

To view the WiFi settings:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.

4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ☰, click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.
The WiFi Settings page displays the WiFi settings.

Change the WiFi network name

To change the WiFi network name:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ☰, click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.
The WiFi Settings page displays.
6. In the 2.4 GHz or 5 GHz Network section, enter a new network name in the **Network Name (SSID)** field.
7. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Turn off the SSID broadcast to create a hidden network

By default, the extender broadcasts its WiFi signal so that the WiFi network names (SSIDs) are easy to find and connect to from a computer, tablet, or smartphone. You can turn off the SSID broadcast to create a hidden WiFi network. To connect to a hidden network, you must know its SSID and password and manually enter them.

To turn off the SSID broadcast to create a hidden network:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.

2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.
The WiFi Settings page displays.
6. In the 2.4 GHz or 5 GHz Network section, clear the **Broadcast the Network Name (SSID)** check box.
7. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Disable or enable the WiFi radios

By default, the extender WiFi radios broadcast signals in the 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz bands. If you disable the WiFi radios, no devices can connect to the extender using WiFi.

To enable or disable the WiFi radios:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.

5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.

The WiFi Settings page displays.

6. Select or clear the **Enable 2.4 GHz WiFi** check box.

7. Select or clear the **Enable 5 GHz WiFi** check box.

8. Click the **SAVE** button.

Your settings are saved.

Change the WiFi speed

When the extender 2.4 GHz WiFi backhaul is connected to the root access point (root AP), the extender 2.4 GHz fronthaul WiFi speed matches the root AP 2.4 GHz WiFi speed. The extender cannot change the 2.4 GHz WiFi speed.

This also applies to the extender 5 GHz WiFi speed. When the extender 5 GHz WiFi backhaul is connected to the root AP, the extender 5 GHz fronthaul WiFi speed matches the root AP 5 GHz WiFi speed. The extender cannot change the 5 GHz WiFi speed.

The following table shows whether the extender WiFi speed is changeable based on the backhaul connection to the root AP.

Table 3. Extender backhaul and fronthaul WiFi connection

Which extender WiFi backhaul is connected to the root AP?	Is the extender 2.4 GHz fronthaul WiFi speed changeable?	Is the extender 5 GHz fronthaul WiFi speed changeable?
Both 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz	No	No
2.4 GHz only	No	Yes
5 GHz only	Yes	No
No connection	Yes	Yes

To change the extender WiFi speed:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.

If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).

For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.

A login page displays.

3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.
The WiFi Settings page displays.
6. In the 2.4 GHz Network or 5 GHz Network section, select a speed from the **WiFi Speed** menu.
7. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Set up a guest WiFi network

Guest networks allow visitors to use the Internet without using your WiFi security key. You can add a guest network for the 2.4 GHz WiFi band and the 5 GHz WiFi band. By default, the guest networks are disabled.

The extender provides two default guest networks with the following names (SSIDs):

- **2.4 GHz guest WiFi network SSID.** NETGEAR_GUEST_EXT
- **5 GHz guest WiFi network SSID.** NETGEAR_GUEST_5GEXT

By default, these networks are configured as open networks without security but are disabled. You can enable one or both networks. You can also change the SSIDs for these networks.

To set up a guest network:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Do More > Guest Network**.
The Guest Network page displays.

6. Configure the settings for the 2.4 GHz or 5 GHz guest WiFi network.
 - **Enable 2.4 GHz WiFi** and **Enable 5 GHz WiFi**. Select the check box to enable the guest WiFi network.
 - **Network Name (SSID)**. Enter a guest WiFi network name of up to 32 case-sensitive characters.
 - **Broadcast this Network Name (SSID)**. Clear the check box to hide the network.
 - **Allow guests to access My Local Network**. Select the check box to allow access to the main network.
7. Select a WiFi security type for the guest network.
 - **None**. No security.
 - **WPA2-PSK [AES]**. Enter a password of 8 to 63 characters.
 - **WPA-PSK [TKIP] + WPA2-PSK [AES]**. Use only for older devices.
 - **WPA3-Personal**. Use for the strongest security.
8. Click the **SAVE** button.

Your settings are saved.

Use WPS to add a computer to the extender's WiFi network

WPS (WiFi Protected Setup) lets you connect a computer or WiFi device to the extender's network without entering the WiFi network passphrase or key. Instead, you use a **WPS** button or enter a PIN to connect.

If you use the push button method, the WiFi device that you are trying to connect must include a physical button or a software button. If you use the PIN method, you must know the PIN of the WiFi device that you are trying to connect.

WPS supports WPA and WPA2 WiFi security. If your extender network is open (no WiFi security is set), connecting with WPS automatically sets WPA + WPA2 WiFi security on the extender network and generates a random passphrase. You can view this passphrase on the WiFi Settings page (for more information, see [View WiFi settings](#) on page 16).

Use WPS with the PIN method

To use the PIN method to connect a WiFi device to the extender WiFi network, you must know the PIN of the WiFi device that you are trying to connect.

To add a computer or WiFi device to the extender WiFi network:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.

2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Do More > Connect Devices (WPS)**.
The Connect Devices (WPS) page displays.
6. Select the **PIN Number** radio button.
The page adjusts.
7. Enter the PIN of the WiFi device in the field.
8. Click the **NEXT** button.
For four minutes, the extender attempts to find the computer or WiFi device.
9. Within four minutes, go to the WiFi device and use its WPS software to join the WiFi network.
10. To verify that the WiFi device is connected to the extender WiFi network, select **Settings > Connected Devices**.
The WiFi device displays onscreen.

Use WPS with the push button method

To use the push button method to connect a WiFi device to the extender WiFi network, the device must include a physical **WPS** button or an onscreen **WPS** button.

To use WPS to add a WPS-enabled device to the extender WiFi network:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.

2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Do More > Connect Devices (WPS)**.
The Connect Devices (WPS) page displays.
6. Leave the **Push Button (recommended)** radio button selected.
7. Click the **WPS** button.
For two minutes, the extender attempts to add the WiFi device to the network.
8. Within two minutes, go to the WiFi device and press or click the **WPS** button.
9. To verify that the WiFi device is connected, select **Settings > Connected Devices**.
The WiFi device displays onscreen.

Deny access to a computer or WiFi device

By default, access control is disabled so that devices can easily connect to the extender WiFi networks.

You can deny network access to specific computers and WiFi devices based on their MAC addresses. Each network device is assigned a MAC address, which is a unique 12-character physical address that contains hexadecimal characters (0–9, a–f, or A–F) separated by colons (for example, 00:09:AB:CD:EF:01).

The MAC address is typically printed on the device label. If you cannot access the label, you can display the MAC address using the network configuration utilities on the computer. You might also find MAC addresses on the Connected Devices page. For more information, see [View connected devices](#) on page 16.

To use WiFi access control to deny access:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.

2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Connected Devices**.
The Connected Devices page displays.
6. In the WiFi Devices section, select the **Enable Access Control** check box.
The WiFi devices table displays the names and MAC addresses of devices connected to the extender.
7. Select the **Deny** check box for the device.
8. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved and the device cannot connect to the extender WiFi network.

Set up an access schedule

You can control access for all users during specific periods of the day. You can set up an access schedule that prevents the extender wireless or wired connection to the router based on the times that you specify.

To set up an access schedule:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.

3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Do More > Access Schedule**.
The Access Schedule page displays.
6. Select the **Access Schedule On** radio button.
The page adjusts.
7. In the **Days** menu and the **Time** menu, select the day and time when you want to disable the extender wireless or wired connection to the router.
8. Click the **Add Time** button to add the specified time to the Scheduled Times table.
9. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Change the extender's device name

The default device name is the extender model number.

To change the extender device name:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.
The WiFi Settings page displays.
6. Scroll down and click the **IP Address** heading.
The section expands.

7. In the **Device Name** field, enter a new name.
8. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Set up the extender to use a static IP address

The extender is configured by default to use a dynamic IP address, which is the correct setting for most home networks.

To set up the extender to use a static IP address:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Wireless**.
The WiFi Settings page displays.
6. Scroll down and click the **IP Address** heading.
By default, the **Dynamically get IP Address from Router** radio button is selected.
The page expands.
7. Select the **Use Static IP Address** radio button.
8. Complete the fields to specify the IP network addresses.
9. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Configure a router with advanced MAC settings to work with your extender

If you enabled a WiFi MAC filter, WiFi access control, or access control list (ACL) on the router, when a WiFi device connects through the extender, the MAC address shown on the router is translated to another MAC address.

If the router MAC filter, WiFi access control, or ACL is enabled, the WiFi device connects to the extender but cannot obtain an IP address or access the Internet.

To allow the WiFi device to receive an IP address and access the Internet, you must provide the translated MAC address to the router.

To add a translated MAC address to the router and reserve an IP address for the extender:

1. Log in to the router and disable the MAC filter, WiFi access control, or ACL.
For more information about how to disable the router MAC filter, WiFi access control, or ACL, see the router documentation.
2. Power on the extender and connect all WiFi devices to the extender.
3. Make sure that the Router Link LED remains lit.
4. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
5. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
6. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
7. Select **Settings > Connected Devices**.
The Connected Devices page displays the MAC addresses and virtual MAC addresses for computers and WiFi devices connected to the extender network.
8. On the router, add the extender virtual MAC address and all virtual MAC addresses connected to the extender network to the router MAC filter table.



NOTE: To reserve a specific IP address for the extender, you must specify the first virtual MAC address that displays for the extender 2.4 GHz or 5 GHz network in the router IP reservation table. The first virtual MAC address that displays for the extender 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz networks is the same.

9. Enable the router MAC filter, WiFi access control, or ACL.

Maintain and monitor the extender

This chapter covers the following topics:

- [Change the extender login user name and password](#)
- [Turn password protection off and on](#)
- [Recover a forgotten user name or password](#)
- [Automatically adjust for daylight saving time](#)
- [Manually set the extender clock](#)
- [Set your time zone](#)
- [Back up and manage the extender configuration](#)
- [Back up the configuration settings](#)
- [Restore the configuration settings](#)
- [Return the extender to its factory default settings](#)
- [Update the extender firmware](#)
- [Restart the extender from the extender web interface](#)
- [Turn the LEDs on or off](#)

Change the extender login user name and password

You can change the admin user name and password that you use to log in to the extender.

To change the extender login user name and password:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Password**.
The Password Settings page displays.
6. To change the admin user name, enter a new user name in the **New User Name** field.

7. To change the admin password, enter a new password in the **New Password** and **Verify Password** fields.
8. Select security questions and enter the answers.
9. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Turn password protection off and on

You can turn password protection for the extender web interface off and on. We recommend that you leave password protection enabled to help keep the network secure.

To turn password protection off or on:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Password**.
The Password page displays.
6. Select the **Password On** or **Password Off** radio button.
 - **Password On**. Enables password protection. You must enter a password when logging in.
 - **Password Off**. Disables password protection. You are not required to enter a password when logging in.
7. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Recover a forgotten user name or password

If you changed the password that you use to access the extender and set up password recovery, you can recover the password if you lose it.

To recover the password that you use to access the extender:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.

If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).

For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.

A login page displays.

3. Click the **Username & Password Help** link.
A page displays requesting the answers to the security questions.



NOTE: If you forgot the answers to the security questions, restore the extender factory settings and set up the login credentials again. See [Return the extender to its factory default settings](#) on page 35.

4. Enter the saved answers to the security questions.
5. Click the **NEXT** button.
The admin user name and password display.
6. Click the **BACK** button.
A login page displays.
7. Log in to the extender.

Automatically adjust for daylight saving time

To set up the extender to automatically adjust for daylight saving time:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.

2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Do More > Access Schedule**.
The Access Schedule page displays.
6. Select the **Automatically adjust for daylight saving time** check box.
7. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

Manually set the extender clock

If you enabled the access schedule, you can set the extender clock. The extender clock ensures that WiFi access schedules are accurate.

To manually set the extender clock:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.

5. Select **Do More > Access Schedule**.

The Access Schedule page displays.

6. In the Extender Clock section, select the **Manual** radio button.

7. Specify the time by completing the fields, or click the **Sync Clock** button to synchronize the extender time with the computer or mobile device.

8. Click the **SAVE** button.

Your settings are saved.

Set your time zone

To set your time zone:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.

2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.

If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).

For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.

A login page displays.

3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.

The Status page displays.

4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.

The extender menu displays.

5. Select **Do More > Access Schedule**.

The Access Schedule page displays.

6. In the Time Zone section, select the time zone from the menu.

7. If you live in a region that observes daylight saving time, select the **Automatically adjust for daylight saving time** check box.

8. Click the **SAVE** button.

Your settings are saved.

Back up and manage the extender configuration

When the extender works correctly after initial setup, we recommend that you back up the extender configuration settings. After you back up the settings, if you change the extender

configuration settings but are not content with the new settings, you can restore the extender configuration to the backed-up settings.

Back up the configuration settings

You can back up the extender configuration file.

To back up the extender configuration settings:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Other**.
The Other Settings page displays.
6. Click the **BACKUP** button.
The browser extracts the configuration file from the extender. The backup file uses a .cfg extension.
7. If the browser is not configured to save downloaded files automatically, select a location to save the file.
8. Click the **OK** button.
The extender configuration settings are backed up.

Restore the configuration settings

You can restore the extender configuration settings from a previously saved configuration file.

To restore the extender configuration settings:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.

2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.

If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).

For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.

A login page displays.

3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.

The Status page displays.

4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.

The extender menu displays.

5. Select **Settings > Other**.

The Other Settings page displays.

6. Click the **BROWSE** button.

7. Locate and select the previously saved backup file.

The backup file uses a .cfg extension.



CAUTION: After you click the **RESTORE** button, do not go online, turn off the extender, shut down the computer, or perform any other actions until the extender finishes restarting.

8. Click the **RESTORE** button.

A confirmation pop-up window opens.

9. Confirm your decision.

The extender configuration is restored and the extender restarts. This process takes about one minute.

Return the extender to its factory default settings

Under some circumstances (for example, if you lose track of the changes that you made to the extender settings), you might want to erase the configuration and reset the extender to factory default settings.

To reset the extender to factory default settings, you can either use the **Reset** button on the back panel or log in to the extender and reset it.

Use the Reset button



CAUTION: This process erases any settings that you configured in the extender.

To use the Reset button to return the extender to its factory default settings:

1. Insert a straightened paper clip into the hole of the **Reset** button and hold it for about seven seconds.
2. Release the button.



CAUTION: Do not try to go online, turn off the extender, shut down the computer, or do anything else to the extender until it finishes restarting!

The extender resets and restarts. This process takes about one minute.

Log in and reset the extender to factory settings



CAUTION: This process erases any settings that you configured on the extender.

To log in to the extender and reset it to factory settings:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.

If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).

For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.

A login page displays.

3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.

The Status page displays.

4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.

The extender menu displays.

5. Select **Settings > Other**.

The Other Settings page displays.



CAUTION: After you click the **RESET** button, do not go online, turn off the extender, shut down the computer, or perform any other actions until the extender finishes restarting.

6. Click the **RESET** button.

A confirmation pop-up window opens.

7. Confirm your decision.

The extender returns to its factory settings and restarts. This process takes about one minute.

Update the extender firmware

You can log in to the extender and check to see if new firmware is available, or you can manually load a specific firmware version to your extender.

Check for new firmware and update the extender

Unless you changed the settings on the Firmware Update page, the extender checks for new firmware automatically when you log in.

To check manually for new firmware and, if available, update the firmware:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Firmware Update**.
The Firmware Update page displays.
6. Click the **CHECK ONLINE** button.
7. If new firmware is available, follow the onscreen prompts to update the firmware.



NOTE: You might need to unzip the firmware file. The firmware update process takes about two minutes.

Manually upload firmware to the extender

If you want to upload a specific firmware version, follow these instructions.

To manually upload a firmware file to the extender:

1. Download the firmware file for the extender from the [NETGEAR Download Center](#), save it to the desktop, and unzip the file if necessary.



NOTE: The correct firmware file uses an .img or .chk extension.

2. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
3. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
4. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
5. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon ≡, click it.
The extender menu displays.
6. Select **Firmware Update**.
The Firmware Update page displays.
7. Click the **BROWSE** button.
8. Locate and select the new firmware file.
The firmware file name ends with an .img or .chk extension.
9. Click the **UPLOAD** button.



CAUTION: After you click the **UPLOAD** button, do not go online, turn off the extender, shut down the computer, or perform any other actions until the extender finishes restarting.

The firmware update starts and the extender restarts. The process takes about two minutes.

Restart the extender from the extender web interface

You can log in to the extender and restart it. When the extender restarts, all computers and WiFi devices connected to the extender WiFi network are automatically disconnected.

To restart the extender from the extender web interface:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.
3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Settings > Other**.
The Other Settings page displays.
6. Click the **RESTART** button and click the **Yes** button to confirm.
The extender restarts. This process takes about two minutes.

Turn the LEDs on or off

If you turn the LEDs off, the Power LED remains on.

To turn the LEDs on or off:

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the extender network.
2. Access the extender web interface by entering **http://mywifiext.local/** in the browser address field.
If you cannot access the extender using **http://mywifiext.local/**, enter the extender IP address instead (for example, **http://192.168.1.250**).
For more information about how to find the extender IP address, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
A login page displays.

3. Enter the admin user name and password and click the **LOG IN** button.
The Status page displays.
4. If the browser displays the **Menu** icon , click it.
The extender menu displays.
5. Select **Do More > LED On/Off**.
The LED On/Off page displays.
6. Select the **ON** or **OFF** radio button.
 - **ON**. Turns the LEDs on.
 - **OFF**. Turns the LEDs off.
7. Click the **SAVE** button.
Your settings are saved.

FAQs and Troubleshooting

This chapter contains the following topics:

- [FAQs](#)
- [Find the extender's IP address](#)
- [Cannot connect to the extender](#)
- [Cannot join a WiFi network and receive an error message](#)
- [Cannot access mywifiext.local](#)
- [Cannot connect to extender using the Nighthawk app](#)

FAQs

The extender is not working as expected during setup or use.

The web browser setup keeps asking for the network password (passphrase) or security key, even though the correct password was entered.

The extender might be placed at the edge of the router or access point wireless coverage area.

Try the following troubleshooting steps:

- Move the extender closer to the router or access point and make sure that the Router Link LED is solid green or amber.
- Relaunch the web browser and enter <http://mywifiext.local/> in the address field.
- Clear the browser cache and history, and then try accessing the installation assistant again.
- Make sure that the computer is configured to use DHCP.
- If you forgot the admin credentials, click the **Username & Password Help** link on the login page.

Can I set up the extender in extender mode if I connect it to the router or access point with an Ethernet cable?

The extender is designed to connect wirelessly to the router or access point when operating in extender mode.

- Use a wireless connection between the extender and the router when operating in extender mode.
- If you want to use an Ethernet connection to the router or access point, configure the extender in access point mode instead.
- For more information about access point mode, see [Use the extender in access point mode](#) on page 8.

I am connected to NETGEAR_EXT and launched a browser, but I do not see the NETGEAR installation assistant.

The browser session or network configuration might not be set up correctly.

- Relaunch the web browser and enter <http://mywifitext.local/> in the address field.
- Clear the web browser cache and history, and then try visiting <http://mywifitext.local/> again.
- If you are installing the extender as an access point, make sure that the computer or WiFi device is connected to the extender using WiFi instead of Ethernet.
- Make sure that the computer is configured to use DHCP.

I forgot my admin user name and password.

The extender login credentials are no longer available.

- On the login window, click the **Username & Password Help** link.
- Answer the security questions that were set up during the initial setup.
- For more information, see [Recover a forgotten user name or password](#) on page 31.

How do I restore factory settings?

You might need to remove the current extender configuration and restore the default settings.

1. Use a sharp object such as a pen or paper clip to press and hold the **Reset** button on the extender for seven seconds until the Power LED blinks amber.
2. Release the **Reset** button and wait for the extender to reboot.
The extender resets and returns to the factory default settings.

Find the extender's IP address

You cannot log in to the extender from an Android device

When the extender and router use the same WiFi network name (SSID), you must use the extender IP address to log in to the extender from an Android device.

1. Launch a web browser from a computer or mobile device that is connected to the router network.
2. Enter **<http://www.routerlogin.net/>**.
A login window opens.
3. Enter the router admin user name and password.
The user name is **admin**. The password is the one that you specified the first time that you logged in. The user name and password are case-sensitive.
The BASIC Home page displays.

4. Select **Attached Devices**.

A list of devices connected to the router displays.

5. Find the extender in the list and note the extender IP address.

Cannot connect to the extender

You cannot connect to the extender or access the extender settings.

The issue might be related to browser access, incorrect login information, or a failed WiFi connection.

1. If you cannot access the extender settings using the Nighthawk app, access the extender web interface at <http://mywifiext.local/>.
For more information, see [Cannot access mywifiext.local](#) on page 44.
2. If you forgot the user name or password, click the **Username & Password Help** link.
For more information, see [FAQs](#) on page 41.
3. If the browser displays an error page, make sure that the address includes **http://** by entering <http://mywifiext.local/>.
4. If you cannot establish a WiFi connection, use an Ethernet cable to connect the computer to the extender.
Then log in to the extender web interface at <http://mywifiext.local/> and check for connection issues.

Cannot join a WiFi network and receive an error message

You receive an error message while joining a WiFi network during extender setup.

The WiFi network name or password might be incorrect, the router might not be reachable, or the WiFi connection between the router and extender might be weak.

1. Make sure that the correct WiFi network name (SSID) and WiFi password are entered.
The WiFi password is case-sensitive. For example, PASSWORD25 is not the same as Password25 or password25.
Use Smart Setup to select the WiFi network and reenter the WiFi password.
For more information, see [Run the Smart Setup installation](#) on page 10.
2. If the extender cannot detect the WiFi network, make sure that the WiFi router is turned on and operating correctly.
If possible, move the extender closer to the WiFi router.

3. If the Router Link LED is red, improve the connection between the extender and router.
Make sure that there is a clear line of sight between the extender and WiFi router.
Remove physical obstacles and try moving the extender closer to the router.
4. If Smart Setup displays a message indicating that the extender is not configured, click the **YES** button to run Smart Setup again.
5. To manually configure the extender, click the **NO, CONFIGURE MANUALLY** button.

Cannot access mywifiext.local

You cannot access <http://mywifiext.local/>.

Your computer or mobile device might not be connected to the extender network, the extender IP address might have changed, or the browser might not be communicating correctly with the extender.

1. Make sure that the computer or mobile device is connected to the extender WiFi network.
<http://mywifiext.local/> is a local web address used to access the extender web interface.
2. If you are accessing <http://mywifiext.local/> for the first time, use the web interface setup process or WPS.
For more information, see [Connect with the extender web interface](#) on page 7.
For information about WPS setup, see [Connect with WPS](#) on page 6.
3. Launch a web browser and enter the extender default IP address: **192.168.1.250**.
If this address does not work, the extender IP address might have changed.
Log in to the router to find the extender IP address. For more information, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
4. If the extender and router use the same WiFi network name (SSID), enter **http://<extender IP address>** in the browser address field.
For example, enter **http://192.168.1.3**.
For more information, see [Find the extender's IP address](#) on page 42.
5. Clear the browser cache and browsing history, and then try again.
For more information, see the browser documentation.
6. Try using another web browser.
7. Assign a static IP address to the computer.
Before changing settings, note the current Default Gateway (Windows) or Router (Mac) address.
Use IP address **192.168.1.249** and subnet mask **255.255.255.0**.
For more information, see the computer documentation.

Cannot connect to extender using the Nighthawk app

The Nighthawk app cannot connect to the extender.

The mobile device might not be connected to the correct extender WiFi network, or the extender might already be managed through the router.

1. If you are setting up the extender for the first time, make sure that the mobile device is connected to the extender WiFi network named **NETGEAR_EXT**.
You can also set up the extender using WPS, which does not require the Nighthawk app.
For more information, see [Connect with WPS](#) on page 6.
2. If the extender is already set up, make sure that the mobile device is connected to the extender WiFi network.
The extender WiFi network name and password are the same as the router WiFi network name and password.
3. If the extender is connected to a Nighthawk router, access the extender settings through the router Network Map in the Nighthawk app.
Launch the Nighthawk app, tap **Network Map** on the router dashboard, and then tap the extender icon.