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# How to update your Home WIFI router

Cybersecurity @ Home



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## Updating your home WIFI router

Keeping your WIFI router up to date with the latest firmware and security patches, is a critical part of cybersecurity and digital safety at home. Keeping your WIFI router up to date, will help protect your family, school and work from cyber-attacks, while schooling and working at home.

The part of your WIFI router that needs to be updated is called Firmware. Firmware is the software that runs your WIFI router.

Some WIFI routers have built-in firmware updating capabilities, check your manufacturer's website.

For those of you without built-in updates, or who do not yet have them configured, we will show you below the basic steps to manually updating your home WIFI router.

Keeping your devices up to date is a key part of how to stay digitally healthy, think of it as a vaccination against known illnesses. It helps keeps the digital sick from the internet away from your home, it is not 100% perfect but is needed to reduce risk.

In addition to keeping your WIFI router and other devices up to date, another great way to reduce your risk is to take the free at-home personal risk assessment S2Me. It is full of helpful tips to keep your family safe while schooling and working from home.

S2Me personal at home risk assessment.


<https://s2me.io>

## Step 1

Step 1 is to identify your WIFI router model number, this generally is found on the bottom or back of your WIFI router. We have included a few examples below, your WIFI router may look different than the examples below, but your WIFI router will have a label with your model number on it somewhere.





 <b>CenturyLink™</b>	<b>Model Number: C1100Z</b>
SSID:	CenturyLink0204
Security Type:	WPA2-AES
Key/Passphrase	cqxt5qkkzaus5
WPS PIN:	55420525
GUI Address:	192.168.0.1
Admin Username:	admin
Admin Password:	Hadsee7j
<b>Zyxel</b>	<b>802.11n WiFi Router</b>

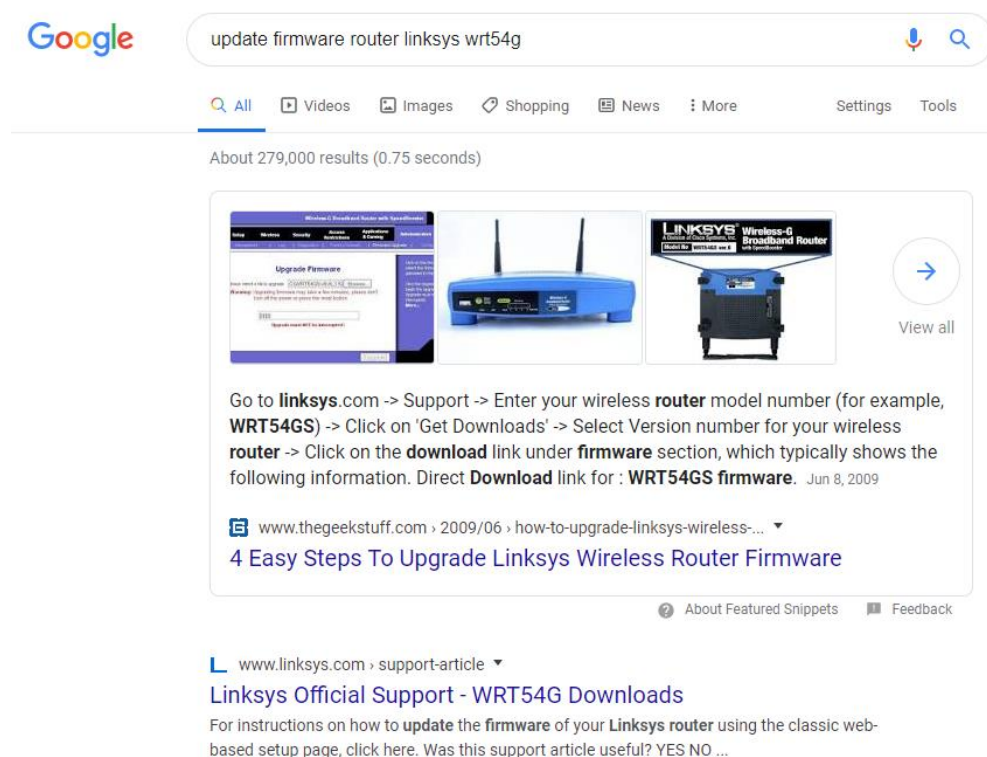


## Step 2

Google “update router firmware” and your model number.

Note: firmware is the name for the software that runs your WIFI router

For example, Google: *update firmware router linksys wrt54g*



The screenshot shows a Google search interface with the query "update firmware router linksys wrt54g". Below the search bar, there are tabs for "All", "Videos", "Images", "Shopping", "News", "More", "Settings", and "Tools". The search results show "About 279,000 results (0.75 seconds)".

The first result is a featured snippet from [www.thegeekstuff.com](http://www.thegeekstuff.com) dated 2009/06, titled "4 Easy Steps To Upgrade Linksys Wireless Router Firmware". The snippet includes instructions: "Go to **linksys.com** -> Support -> Enter your wireless **router** model number (for example, **WRT54GS**) -> Click on 'Get Downloads' -> Select Version number for your wireless **router** -> Click on the **download** link under **firmware** section, which typically shows the following information. Direct **Download** link for : **WRT54GS firmware**. Jun 8, 2009".

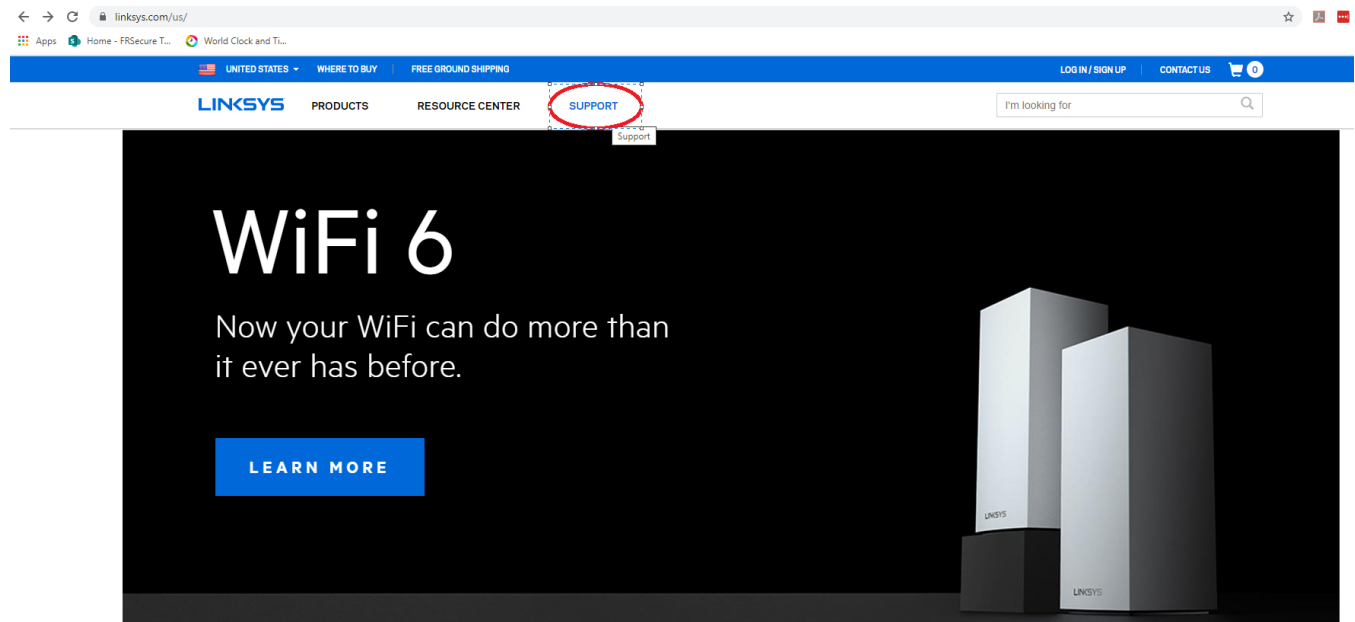
The second result is from [www.linksys.com](http://www.linksys.com), titled "Linksys Official Support - WRT54G Downloads". It includes the text: "For instructions on how to **update** the **firmware** of your **Linksys router** using the classic web-based setup page, click here. Was this support article useful? YES NO ...".

## Step 3

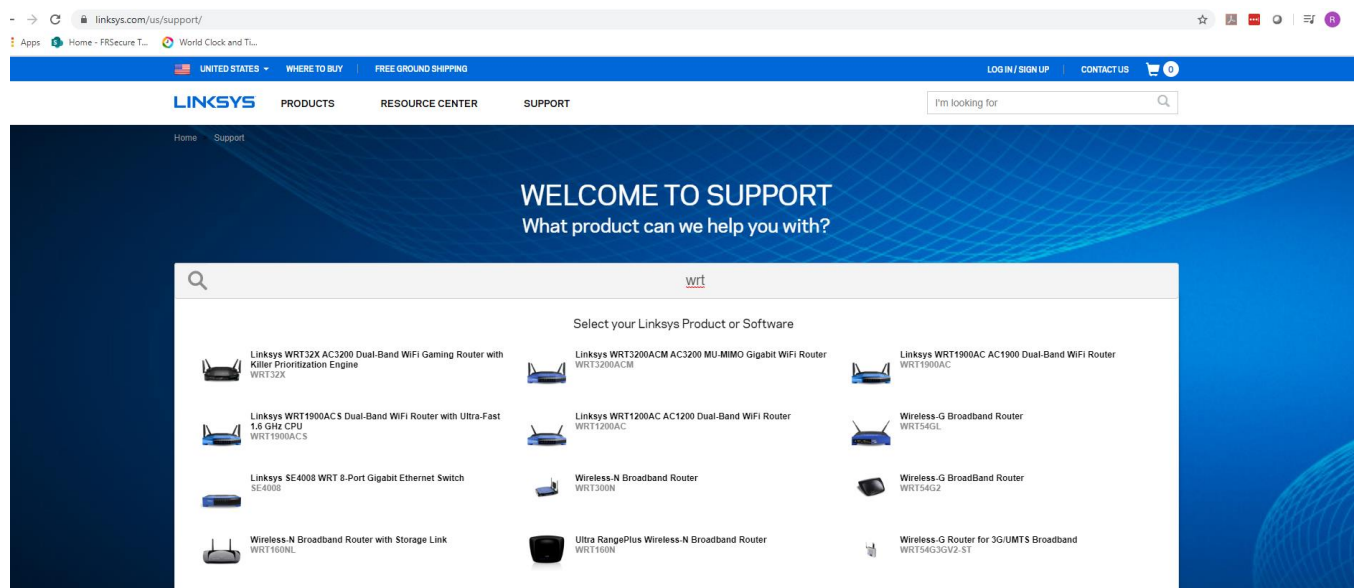
Go to your WIFI router manufacturer's website and find the support tab or link.

In general, it will look like the example below.

Click on the support link.

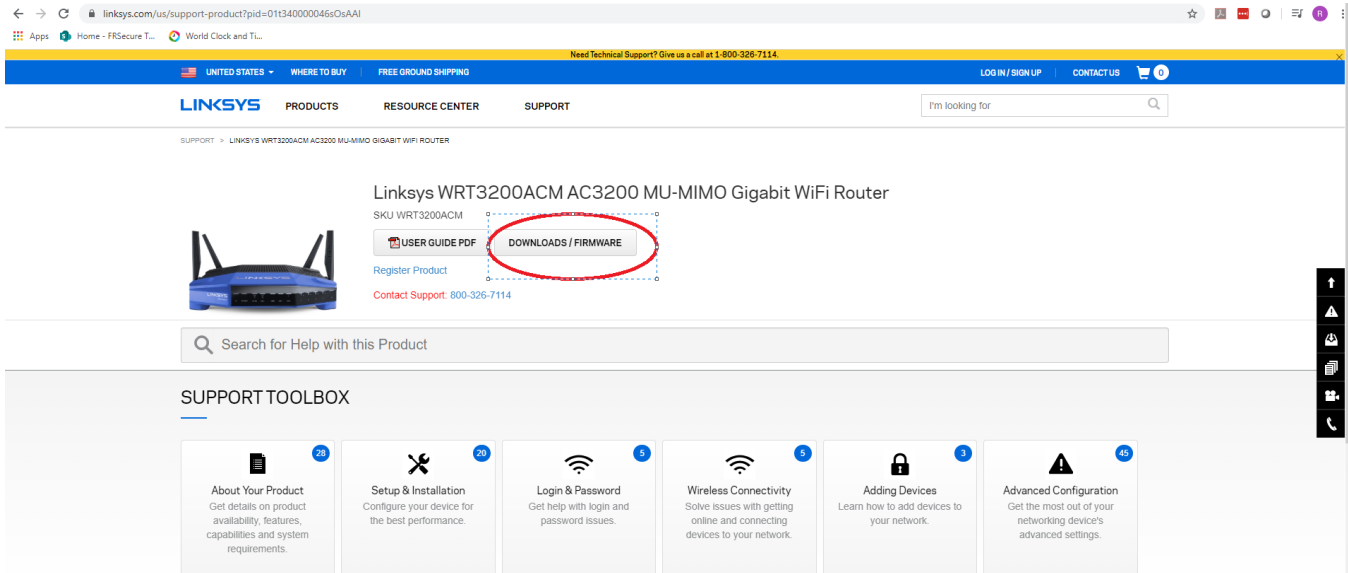


Type in your WIFI router model number and click on your model, this will bring up the support page for your WIFI router.



## Step 4

Click on the download / Firmware button or link.



Linksys WRT3200ACM AC3200 MU-MIMO Gigabit WiFi Router

SKU WRT3200ACM

[USER GUIDE PDF](#) **DOWNLOADS / FIRMWARE**

[Register Product](#)

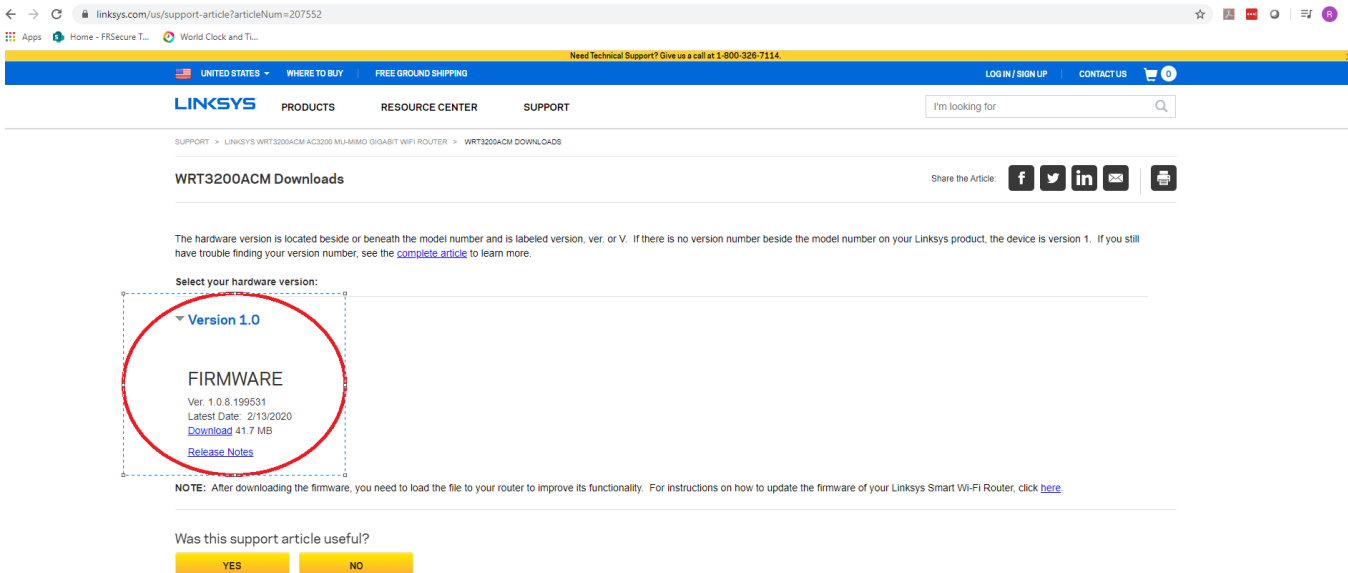
Contact Support: 800-326-7114

Search for Help with this Product

**SUPPORT TOOLBOX**

- About Your Product** (20) Get details on product availability, features, capabilities and system requirements.
- Setup & Installation** (20) Configure your device for the best performance.
- Login & Password** (5) Get help with login and password issues.
- Wireless Connectivity** (5) Solve issues with getting online and connecting devices to your network.
- Adding Devices** (3) Learn how to add devices to your network.
- Advanced Configuration** (46) Get the most out of your networking device's advanced settings.

Follow the instructions to select your specific hardware version, some WIFI routers have multiple versions so be sure to get the correct one for your hardware version.



WRT3200ACM Downloads

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The hardware version is located beside or beneath the model number and is labeled version, ver. or V. If there is no version number beside the model number on your Linksys product, the device is version 1. If you still have trouble finding your version number, see the [complete article](#) to learn more.

Select your hardware version:

▼ Version 1.0

**FIRMWARE**

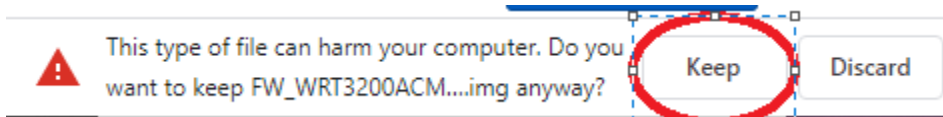
Ver. 1.0.8.199531  
Latest Date: 2/13/2020  
[Download](#) 41.7 MB  
[Release Notes](#)

**NOTE:** After downloading the firmware, you need to load the file to your router to improve its functionality. For instructions on how to update the firmware of your Linksys Smart Wi-Fi Router, click [here](#).

Was this support article useful?

[YES](#) [NO](#)

Download the Firmware. You may see a security warning pop up. Double check to ensure you are at the official manufacturer's website. Once you have confirmed you are at the official manufacturer's site go ahead and click keep.

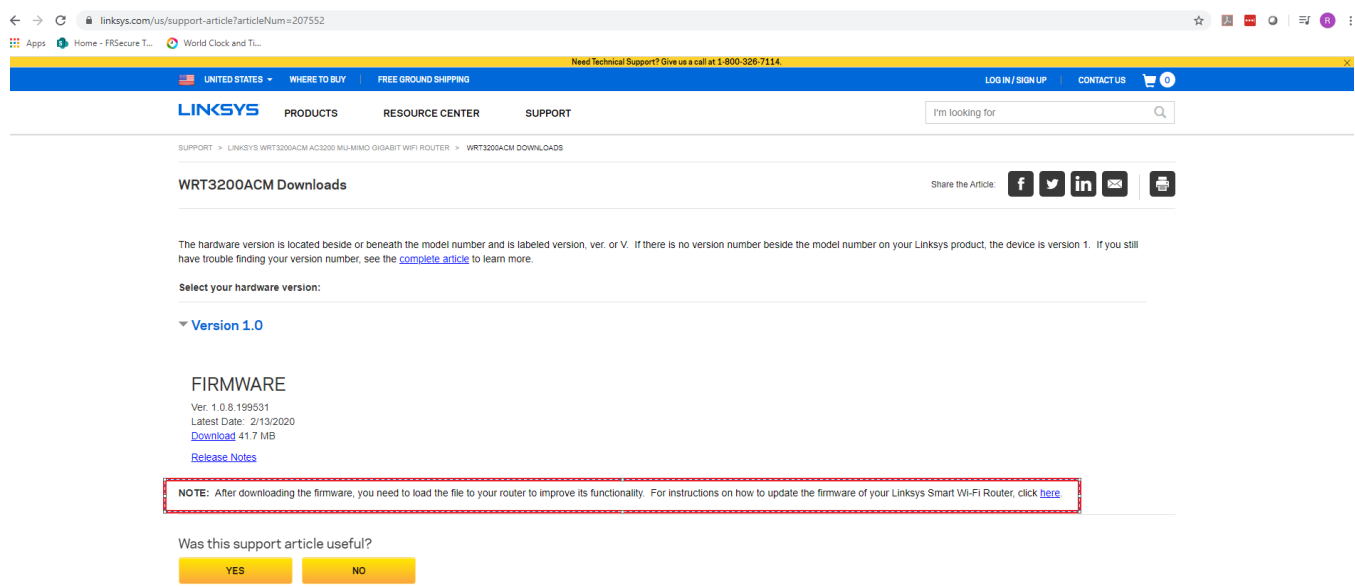


You should then see the completed download of the Firmware.



## Step 5

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for installing the firmware. Look closely for the link to the installation instructions, sometimes it can hide in plain sight.





## Manually upgrading a Linksys Smart Wi-Fi Router's firmware

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Firmware updates are bug fixes and functionality enhancements for the router. Keeping the firmware of your Linksys device updated is important because it fixes issues you may encounter while using it. An updated firmware downloaded from the Linksys Support site may also contain device feature enhancements that are not available in the previous versions.

[Manually upgrading the router's firmware](#)  
[Turning OFF Auto-Updates](#)

### Manually upgrading the router's firmware

#### Step 1:

Download the latest firmware of your Linksys Smart Wi-Fi Router and save it in your computer. For instructions, click [here](#).

**IMPORTANT:** If the firmware you downloaded is a .zip file, you need to unzip it before you proceed with the upgrade process.

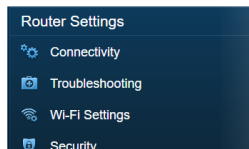
**NOTE:** The name of the file may vary depending on the firmware file of your device.

#### Step 2:

Log in to your [Linksys server account](#). For detailed instructions, click [here](#).

#### Step 3:

Click **Connectivity**.



## Step 6

Once you have updated your WIFI router, check to see if you can turn on automatic updates. If you are able, it is highly recommended you turn on automatic updates. This will make keeping your WIFI router up to date with the latest security updates automatic and give you one less thing to be concerned about.

**Firmware Update**

☐ Automatic (Current Version: 1.1.3.184306)
 

Check for Updates

Manual: No file chosen
 

Choose File

Start

**Time Zone**

(GMT-08:00) Pacific Time (USA & Canada)
 

☒ Automatically adjust for Daylight Savings Time

**Activity Lights**

ON

Enable/disable activity lights. Power light will remain on.

Ok

Cancel

Apply

## If you have questions or issues

#1 Call the WIFI router manufacturer's support number, we have included a list below of the most common manufacturers.

#2 Call on your friends or family who works in IT, most of us have at least one person in our friends and family network, who is tech savvy.

## Common WIFI Router IT support numbers

**LINKSYS 1-(800)-326-7114**

**NETGEAR 1-(888)-638-4327**

**ASUS 1-(888)-678-3688**

**D-Link 1-(800)-326-1688**

**TP-Link 1-(866)-225-8139**

**Belkin 1-(800)-223-5546**

**Cisco 1-(800)-553-6387**

**Apple 1-(800)-692-7753**

**Motorola 1-(877)-466-8846**

**Google 1-(866)-246-6453**