

Eliminate Wireless "Dead Zones"

Most of us take Wifi for granted, but it's not magic — it's radio waves. These radio waves can be obstructed, producing wireless "dead zones" or "dead spots." Wireless signals can't penetrate these dead zones, which mean your wireless devices can't receive a Wifi signal within them.

Having "dead" zones around the home can be avoided.

Imagine that your wireless router is a globe — it emits signals firing out horizontally rather than vertically, so the best place to locate your router is up high and in the centre of your home. Keep in mind that a quality modern router should be able to provide wireless Internet coverage throughout a regular sized home including its outdoor spaces

Here are a few tips to get the most from your network:

- **Reposition Your Router:** If your router is in one corner of your house or apartment and there's a dead zone in the opposite corner of your building, try moving the router to a more central location in the middle of your house or apartment.
- **Adjust Your Router's Antenna:** If you want the signal to go wide, adjust the antennas to stay vertical, if you want them to head downstairs, tap the antennas to stay horizontal.
- **Identify and Reposition Obstructions:** If your Wifi router is sitting next to a metal filing cabinet, that's going to reduce your signal strength. So, if there's a metal cabinet, microwave, aquarium, or anything else that seems to be obstructing the signal from your router and producing a dead zone, move the obstruction (or your router) and see if that eliminates the problem.
- **Set Up a Wireless Repeater:** If none of the above tips help, you could set up a wireless repeater to extend your coverage over a larger area. This may be essential in large houses.
- **Use a Wired Connection:** You could also consider setting up wired Ethernet cables. For example, if you have good wireless coverage throughout most of your house, but you can't seem to get a signal in your bedroom, you could run an Ethernet cable from your router to your bedroom, or use a pair of powerline adapters, then set up another wireless router in the room. You'd then have wireless internet access in the previously "dead" zone.