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This article provides configuration assistance and troubleshooting guides for initial setup of the range extender. If you problem is not included, contact our Technical Support ( with the product model and problem details. Q1. Can the range extender work with a non-TP-Link router? Yes. The range extender works with almost any Wi-Fi router. But it may not be compatible with routers or gateways with firmware that has been altered, or is non-standard or outdated. Q2. I have two range extenders, how can I connect them to my home network? Generally we suggest connecting all the extenders to the router for better performance. You can also connect one extender to another extender which already gets connected to your router, however we do not recommend connecting multiple link chain in consideration of the Wi-Fi quality. Q3. How do I log into the range extender? Method 1: Via the Tether app Connect your smartphone to the range extender's Wi-Fi. Launch the app and tap your extender to log in. Method 2: Via the web management page Connect your smartphone to the range extender's Wi-Fi. Launch a web browser and visit . Create a user name and web page will use the same login password for your range extender. Method 3: Via the Tether app and web page will use the same login password for your range extender. Q4. What should I do if the Tether app can't find my range extender? Make sure your smartphone is connected to the extender's Wi-Fi. The default network name is TP-Link Extender or TP-Link Extender 2.4GHz/5GHz. Turn off your cellular data and try again. Reboot the extender and try again. Q5. What should I do if I can't access the web management page of the range extender? Verify that is correctly entered in the web browser. Make sure your smartphone or computer is connected to the extender's Wi-Fi. The default network name is TP-Link Extender or TP-Link Extender 2.4GHz/5GHz. If your extender has an Ethernet port, connect your computer to the extender via an Ethernet cable, then try again. If you use a computer, make sure it is configured to obtain an IP address automatically. Reboot the extender and try again. Use the IP address to access the extender. The default IP is 192.168.0.254. If the extender has been connected to a router, go to the router's DHCP client list to obtain the extender's current IP address. Q6. What should I do if the range extender can't find my home network? Try rescanning networks, and double-check the list of scanned networks. Go to the wireless settings of your smartphone or laptop and make sure it can find your home network. Move the extender closer to your home router, preferably within 16 feet, then try again. If you use a dual-band extender but your router supports only the 2.4 GHz band, skip the 5 GHz band. Reboot the router and extender, then try again. Check the channel settings of your router's 5 GHz network. If it is set to auto or a DFS channel (52-64 or 100-140), 5 GHz connection may be unstable. In this case, change it to a band1 channel (36-48) or band4 channel (149-165), then try again. For channel settings, refer to your router's user manual. Q7. What should I do if the range extender can't connect to my home network's signal LED doesn't turn solid on? If you set up via WPS, make sure you have entered the correct Wi-Fi password(s) for your main network router during setup. Make sure the extender is close to your router, preferably within 16 feet during setup, and away from large electrical appliances. If you have enabled wireless MAC filtering, wireless access control, or access control (ACL) on the router, temporarily disable them first, then follow any method on the front page to complete the configuration. Try setting it up via another method by referring to the Quick Installation Guide. Reset the extender and go through the setup again. Q8. How to confirm whether my range extender is in the best location? For better Wi-Fi coverage and signal strength, plug in the extender. About halfway between your router and the Wi-Fi dead zone Within the range of your router Check the extender's Signal LED by referring to the relevant user manuals. Generally a red Signal LED or less than 3 LEDs indicates poor signal from your router. For more intuitive location assistant, access extender settings via the Tether app and go to Tools > Location Assistant. Q9. What's my range extender's network name after initial setup? The default network name (TP-Link Extender or TP-Link Extender 2.4GHz/5GHz) is provided for initial setup only. If you set up the extender via the Tether app or web management page, you can customize the network name as you like. If you set up the extender via the WPS button, its network name will be the same as your router or with EXT at the end. Q10. What should I do if I forgot the wireless password of my range extender? The extender shares the same wireless password as your main network. Q11. What should I do if I forgot the login password of my range extender? Note: After the reset, you need to reconfigure the extender to access the internet. Please note down your login password for future logins. Q12. What should I do if my range extender has no internet connection? The extender relies on your router for internet connection. If it loses internet connection, check the following: Connect your smartphone to your router to check whether it has internet connection. Make sure the extender is within the range of your router. Move the extender closer to your router and check again. Double-check whether your router's wireless network name(s) and/or password(s) have been changed. If yes, log in to the extender and set the wireless settings to reconnect to your router. Check the channel settings of your router's 5 GHz network. If it is set to auto or a DFS channel (52-64 or 100-140), 5 GHz connection may be unstable. In this case, change it to a band1 channel (36-48) or band4 channel (149-165), then try again. For channel settings, refer to your router's user manual. Q13. How do I reset the range extender to its factory default settings? With the extender powered on, use a pin to press the Reset button (hole) for 1 second. The extender will reboot. For some early firmware versions, you may need to use a pin to press and hold the Reset button (hole) for about 5 seconds until the Power LED blinks. Log in to the extender's web management page. Go to Settings > System Tools > Backup & Restore and click Factory Restore. Related Articles: How to place your wireless Range Extender for optimal reception and performance? Is thisfaq useful? Your feedback helps improve this site. What's your concern with this article? Dissatisfied with product Too Complicated Confusing Title Does not apply to me Too Vague Other We'd love to get your feedback, please let us know how we can improve this content. Thank you We appreciate your feedback.Click here to contact TP-Link technical support. A Wi-Fi extender can boost the Wi-Fi from your existing router. That allows your network to reach places it wasn't able to reach before due to the router's limited reach as well as fix dead or weak spots in your area of covered.Even if you have one of the best wireless routers or the best Wi-Fi 6 routers money can buy, sometimes you have to deal with its limited range. But, with so many of us now working from home, or just bingeing on Netflix and YouTube because of lockdown restrictions, dead spots are the last thing you want to deal with on top of an overburdened network.Many people are buying new routers and even expensive mesh networking systems, in order to improve their home Wi-Fi. However, one of the best Wi-Fi extenders can often provide a more affordable and simpler solution. You may like While it might be a new concept to you, a Wi-Fi range extender can be the right fix to your network blues. And, with our guide below, we can help you install and set it up without frustration.(Image credit: Future; TP-Link)8. The first step when setting up a range extender is simply to decide whether you want to buy a compact model that plugs directly into a mains power socket, or a larger model that will need to sit on a desk or shelf. The plug-in models are really convenient, although a desktop model may have additional features, such as Ethernet ports, which can come in handy as well. We'll go with this RE650 extender from TP-Link, which is a fast and affordable plug-in option for around \$120/\$E0/AU\$180. However, the set-up process will be similar for desktop models as well.(Image credit: TP-Link)2. Getting startedRegardless of which room you plan to use it in, you'll start the set-up process with the range extender being plugged in and sitting as close as possible to your main router. Sign up for breaking news, reviews, opinion, top tech deals, and more.Modern routers and range extenders now have a WPS button ("Wi-Fi Protected Set-up") that creates a two-minute window in which the two devices can connect to each other without needing your Wi-Fi password. That's the quickest option for getting started, but you'll still need to use the manufacturer's app to complete the initial set-up, so we'll go through the full process using the app here.(Image credit: Future; TP-Link)3. Connecting the Wi-Fi range extenderBefore you launch the extender's app, just go into the Wi-Fi Settings panel on your smartphone or tablet. Our normal router is called 0606 Hyperoptic, and you can see that it transmits Wi-Fi on both the 2.4GHz and 5.0GHz bands. You can also see that the range extender is transmitting its own wi-fi signals - again on the 2.4GHz and 5.0GHz bands - called TP-Link Extender 2.4GHz and TP-Link Extender 5GHz. If you use WPS to get started, you may already be connected to the range extender. Alternatively, you can just tap on TP-Link Extender 2.4GHz to connect your smartphone to the range extender.4. Dual-band Wi-FiNow that we've connected our smartphone to the range extender, we can launch the TP-Link app. Most manufacturers will ask you to enter an email address and password in order to create a private account.The app will then scan the area and show all the other Wi-Fi networks that it has detected. The app will probably start with the 2.4GHz band, and you can see our 0606 Hyperoptic 2.4GHz router network right at the top of the list. We now need to select the router's 2.4GHz network so that the app can link the router and the range extender together.(Image credit: Future; TP-Link)5. Merging the Wi-Fi networksThe app now asks you to enter the password for your router's 2.4GHz Wi-Fi network. This allows the range extender to connect its own 2.4GHz Wi-Fi signal to the 2.4GHz signal of your main router. You'll also need to repeat the process for the 5GHz band as well. Once this is done, the range extender is linked to the router on both Wi-Fi bands, and this allows the range extender to act as a kind of relay so that your computers and mobile devices in rooms that normally have poor Wi-Fi can now link to your router via the range extender.6. Network namesThis is where things can get a little confusing. At the start of the set-up process, the range extender's Wi-Fi network was called TP-Link Extender on both the 2.4GHz and 5.0GHz bands. But now that the range extender is linked to our router, the app changes the name of the range extender Wi-Fi to use the same name - 0606 Hyperoptic - as our router's Wi-Fi network. However, it adds 'EXT' on the end - 0606 Hyperoptic 1GB Fibre 5G EXT - so that you can still tell the range extender's new network apart from the router's normal network.(Image credit: Future; TP-Link)7. Halfway houseThat's a bit confusing, but the app does allow you to change the name of the range extender network to something that's easier to remember. Let's keep it simple by calling it 'Range Extender 2.4GHz' and 'Range Extender 5.0GHz'. Just remember, though, that the range extender is still sitting right next to our router, so it's now time to unplug the range extender and move it further away. You should start by positioning it about halfway between the router and the room or other location that where you need to boost the Wi-Fi signal.(Image credit: Future; TP-Link)8. Location, Location, LocationNow take a look at the range extender's app. At the moment, we've got the range extender positioned about halfway between our main router and our home office where the Wi-Fi signal tends to be a bit weak. However, the app is telling us that there's a very good connection between the router and the range extender, so we can still move the range extender further away from the router without losing the connection. The TP-Link app also includes a 'location assistant' feature that can help you to find the best location for the range extender.9. Moving out of rangeIf we go back to our smartphone's Wi-Fi Settings panel, we can now see that we have two distinct networks - the main router (0606 Hyperoptic) on both 2.4GHz and 5.0GHz bands, and the Range Extender network, which is also on 2.4GHz and 5.0GHz bands. If you move into a room that can't pick up the Wi-Fi from the router then you can switch to the Range Extender network to improve reception. You've already entered the router's Wi-Fi password into the app, so you don't need to do this again. However, you do still need to select the Range Extender network each time you go back to that room with the dodgy Wi-Fi.(Image credit: Netgear)10. Finishing upSwitching between networks isn't too much problem for a single device, such as a laptop that may spend most of its time in a bedroom or office. However, it can be a bit of a chore with smartphones and tablets that move around a lot more. Some of the more expensive range extenders - such as Netgear's new EAX80 model - can eliminate this problem by merging their own Wi-Fi network with the network from your main router. This is called 'roaming' as it allows you to automatically switch between the router and the range extender, depending on which one is closer and provides the strongest Wi-Fi signal.We show you how to boost your Wi-Fi signal>Welcome to our guide on how to use a wireless router as a range extender. If you're having trouble with Wi-Fi signals in certain areas of your home or office, a range extender can help boost signal strength and expand your network coverage. Instead of investing in a separate range extender device, you can repurpose your existing wireless router to serve this purpose. A wireless router range extender, also known as a wireless repeater or a Wi-Fi extender, is a device that amplifies and extends the coverage of your wireless network. It receives the existing Wi-Fi signal from your main router and rebroadcasts it, effectively increasing the range and improving the signal quality. This allows you to access the internet or connect devices in areas that were previously out of Wi-Fi range. By repurposing your wireless router as a range extender, you can save money and make the most out of your existing hardware. This DIY approach offers a cost-effective solution for improving Wi-Fi coverage in larger areas or overcoming obstructions that may hinder signal strength, such as thick walls or multiple floors. In this guide, we will walk you through the step-by-step process of setting up your wireless router as a range extender. We'll cover everything from checking router compatibility to configuring the settings and testing the connection. Whether you're a tech-savvy individual or a beginner, this guide is designed to be easy to follow and help you achieve better Wi-Fi coverage. Before we dive into the setup process, it's important to note that not all routers are capable of being used as range extenders. In the next section, we'll discuss how to check the compatibility of your router to ensure it can be repurposed for this function. What is a Wireless Router Range Extender? A wireless router range extender, also known as a wireless repeater or Wi-Fi extender, is a device that helps expand the coverage of your wireless network. It works by receiving the existing Wi-Fi signal from your main router and rebroadcasting it, effectively increasing the range and improving signal strength in areas that were previously out of Wi-Fi reach. Think of a wireless router range extender as a middleman between your main router and the devices that are located too far away to receive a strong Wi-Fi signal. It picks up the signal from the main router and amplifies it, allowing devices to connect and access the internet in previously dead zones or areas with weak Wi-Fi coverage. The range extender looks like a smaller version of a router and is typically connected to a power outlet. It acts as a bridge, creating a connection between your main router and the devices that are located further away. This eliminates Wi-Fi dead spots and ensures a consistent and reliable connection throughout your home or office. There are various types of wireless router range extenders available on the market, including single-band and dual-band devices. Single-band extenders operate on the 2.4 GHz frequency band, while dual-band extenders offer the option to connect to both the 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz bands, providing better speed and more stable connections. Range extenders are a popular choice for individuals who experience connectivity issues in certain areas of their home or office. They are especially useful in larger spaces, houses with multiple floors, or buildings with thick walls that can obstruct the Wi-Fi signal. It's important to note that while range extenders can improve Wi-Fi coverage, they may not deliver the same performance as a dedicated router. The rebroadcasted signal may experience some degradation in terms of speed and latency compared to the original signal from the main router. However, for general internet browsing, streaming, and light online activities, a range extender can provide a satisfactory solution. In the next section, we will explore the benefits of using a wireless router as a range extender and why it is a cost-effective option for enhancing your Wi-Fi network. Benefits of Using a Wireless Router as a Range Extender Using a wireless router as a range extender offers several benefits that make it a cost-effective and convenient option for improving Wi-Fi coverage. Let's take a closer look at some of these advantages: Utilizes Existing Hardware: Repurposing your existing wireless router as a range extender allows you to make the most out of your current hardware investment. Instead of purchasing a separate range extender device, you can save money by repurposing a router you already own. Easy Setup Process: Setting up a wireless router as a range extender is typically straightforward and user-friendly. Most routers have built-in settings and features that allow you to configure them as repeaters without the need for advanced technical knowledge. This makes the setup process accessible to users of all skill levels. Expands Wi-Fi Coverage: The main advantage of using a range extender is the ability to extend the range of your wireless network. By placing the range extender in an area with weak or no Wi-Fi signal, you can amplify and rebroadcast the signal, effectively expanding the coverage to previously inaccessible areas of your home or office. Seamless Roaming: When you set up a wireless router as a range extender, your devices can seamlessly move between the main router and the range extender without manual reconnection. This allows for uninterrupted internet access as you move throughout your living or working space. No Additional Cables: Using a range extender eliminates the need for additional Ethernet cables to connect devices that are out of range. Your devices can connect wirelessly to the range extender, reducing clutter and providing more flexibility in device placement. Improved Signal Strength: With a range extender, you can enjoy stronger signal strength in areas that previously had weak or unstable connections. This translates to better download and upload speeds, smoother streaming, and a more reliable internet experience. By repurposing your wireless router as a range extender, you can benefit from improved Wi-Fi coverage without incurring the extra cost of purchasing a separate device. The next section will walk you through the step-by-step process of setting up your wireless router as a range extender. How to Set Up a Wireless Router as a Range Extender Setting up a wireless router as a range extender involves a few simple steps. By following these steps, you can repurpose your existing router and enhance your Wi-Fi coverage. Let's dive into the process: Step 1: Check Router Compatibility Not all routers are capable of being used as range extenders. Check the manufacturer's website or user manual to verify if your router supports this feature. Look for terms like "bridge mode" or "repeater mode." If your router is compatible, move on to the next step. Step 2: Reset the Router to Factory Settings Before configuring your router as a range extender, it's best to reset it to its factory settings. This ensures that any previous configurations are cleared, providing a clean slate for the setup process. Refer to your router's user manual for detailed instructions on how to perform a factory reset. Step 3: Connect the Router to the Main Router Position your range extender in a location where it can receive a strong Wi-Fi signal from your main router. Connect the range extender to your computer using an Ethernet cable. Access the router's settings by typing its IP address into your web browser. This address is usually found on the back of the router or in the user manual. Step 4: Configure the Router's Settings In the router's settings interface, navigate to the wireless settings. Look for options related to "repeater mode" or "wireless bridge mode." Enable this mode and select your main router's network from the available network list. Provide the necessary login credentials if prompted. Step 5: Test the Range Extender Connection Once the configuration is complete, disconnect the Ethernet cable between your computer and the range extender. Place the range extender in the desired location, preferably in an area with good Wi-Fi coverage. Power on the range extender and wait for it to establish a connection with your main router. Connect your devices to the range extender's network and test the signal strength and performance. It's worth noting that the specific steps may vary slightly depending on your router's make and model. Consult your router's user manual or the manufacturer's website for detailed instructions specific to your device. If you encounter any issues during the setup process, refer to the troubleshooting tips in the next section for common problems and possible solutions. Step 1: Check Router Compatibility Before setting up your wireless router as a range extender, it's crucial to ensure that your router is compatible with this functionality. Not all routers have the capability to act as range extenders, so it's important to check the manufacturer's specifications or the user manual for information on whether your router supports this feature. To check the compatibility of your router, look for terms such as "bridge mode," "repeater mode," or "access point mode." These modes indicate that the router can be configured to act as a range extender. If your router supports any of these modes, you're on the right track. If you're unable to locate this information in the user manual or on the manufacturer's website, you can also search online forums and community discussions related to your specific router model. Often, users who have experimented with different router configurations will share their experiences and provide insight into whether a particular router can be used as a range extender. Additionally, some router manufacturers offer dedicated firmware or software updates that enable range extender functionality for compatible models. Check the manufacturer's website or support resources to see if any such updates are available for your router model. Keep in mind that even if your router is listed as compatible, the process and options for setting it up as a range extender may vary. Familiarize yourself with the specific steps outlined in the manufacturer's documentation or user manual to ensure successful configuration. If your router doesn't support range extender functionality, you may need to consider alternative solutions, such as purchasing a dedicated range extender device. However, if your router is compatible, you can proceed to follow the other steps in this guide to convert your router into a range extender and extend the range of your Wi-Fi network. Step 2: Reset the Router to Factory Settings Before configuring your wireless router as a range extender, you can benefit from improved Wi-Fi coverage without incurring the extra cost of purchasing a separate device. The next section will walk you through the step-by-step process of setting up your wireless router as a range extender. How to Set Up a Wireless Router as a Range Extender Setting up a wireless router as a range extender involves a few simple steps. By following these steps, you can repurpose your existing router and enhance your Wi-Fi coverage. 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If you're unable to locate this information in the user manual or on the manufacturer's website, you can also search online forums and community discussions related to your specific router model. Often, users who have experimented with different router configurations will share their experiences and provide insight into whether a particular router can be used as a range extender. Additionally, some router manufacturers offer dedicated firmware or software updates that enable range extender functionality for compatible models. Check the manufacturer's website or support resources to see if any such updates are available for your router model. Keep in mind that even if your router is listed as compatible, the process and options for setting it up as a range extender may vary. Familiarize yourself with the specific steps outlined in the manufacturer's documentation or user manual to ensure successful configuration. If your router doesn't support range extender functionality, you may need to consider alternative solutions, such as purchasing a dedicated range extender device. However, if your router is compatible, you can proceed to follow the other steps in this guide to convert your router into a range extender and extend the range of your Wi-Fi network. Step 3: Connect the Router to the Main Router Now that you have reset your wireless router to factory settings, it's time to connect it to your main router to establish the range extender functionality. Follow these steps: 1. Access the Range Extender's Settings: Using a web browser on your computer or mobile device, enter the IP address of the range extender into the address bar. This IP address can usually be found in the range extender's user manual or on the device itself. Press Enter to access the settings interface of the range extender. 2. Login to the Range Extender: When the range extender's settings page loads, you will be prompted for a username and password. Refer to the user manual or the default login credentials provided by the manufacturer. If you have changed the login credentials, use your custom username and password to proceed. 3. Adjust Wireless Settings: In the settings interface of the range extender, navigate to the wireless settings section. Here, you may be able to modify the network name (SSID) or the wireless channel. It is recommended to keep the SSID the same as your main router's network for seamless device roaming. If you are experiencing interference from neighboring networks, consider changing the wireless channel to a less congested one. This can help improve performance and reliability. 4. Configure Security Settings: To ensure the security of your extended Wi-Fi network, configure the same security settings as your main router. This includes selecting the appropriate security protocol (such as WPA2) and setting a strong password. Using the same security settings as your main router ensures that devices connected to the range extender are protected and have a seamless experience when transitioning between the main router and the range extender. 5. Save the Settings: Once you have adjusted the necessary wireless and security settings, save the changes made to the range extender's configuration. This will ensure that the new settings take effect. After saving the settings, the range extender will reboot to apply the changes. Allow a few moments for the reboot process to complete and for the range extender to establish a stable connection with the main router. Now, your wireless router has been successfully configured as a range extender, ready to extend your Wi-Fi coverage to areas previously out of reach. In the next step, we will discuss how to test the range extender to ensure that it is functioning correctly. Step 5: Test the Range Extender Connection After configuring your wireless router as a range extender, it's important to test the connection to ensure that it is functioning correctly. Follow these steps to test the range extender: 1. Disconnect from the Main Router's Network: On your device (e.g., laptop, smartphone), disconnect from the Wi-Fi network of the main router and search for available networks. 2. Connect to the Range Extender's Network: Look for the network name (SSID) of the range extender. When the range extender's settings page loads, you will be prompted for a username and password. Refer to the user manual or the default login credentials provided by the manufacturer. If you have changed the login credentials, use your custom username and password to proceed. 3. Adjust Wireless Settings: In the settings interface of the range extender, navigate to the wireless settings section. Here, you may be able to modify the network name (SSID) or the wireless channel. It is recommended to keep the SSID the same as your main router's network for seamless device roaming. If you are experiencing interference from neighboring networks, consider changing the wireless channel to a less congested one. This can help improve performance and reliability. 4. Configure Security Settings: To ensure the security of your extended Wi-Fi network, configure the same security settings as your main router. This includes selecting the appropriate security protocol (such as WPA2) and setting a strong password. Using the same security settings as your main router ensures that devices connected to the range extender are protected and have a seamless experience when transitioning between the main router and the range extender. 5. 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