

Home Network Security Checklist

Work through this once, then use it for your monthly 10-minute review.

From Guide #1 of the TechODash Home & SOHO Network Security series. Each item below takes 5 minutes or less to complete.

ROUTER SECURITY

- Change router admin username and password**
Navigate to Administration or System settings in your router panel
- Update router firmware**
Find Firmware/Software Update in admin panel — enable auto-updates if available
- Disable remote management**
Look for Remote Management or WAN Access — turn it off
- Disable UPnP**
Find in Advanced or WAN settings — disable unless specifically needed
- Disable WPS**
Find in wireless settings — disable; known vulnerability with no workaround

WI-FI SETTINGS

- Set Wi-Fi encryption to WPA3 (or WPA2-AES)**
Avoid WEP and original WPA — both are obsolete and easily cracked
- Rename your network (SSID)**
Avoid names that reveal your hardware brand, location, or name
- Set a strong Wi-Fi password (16+ characters)**
Try a passphrase: e.g. BlueSky-Mountain-Desk-42
- Enable a guest / IoT network**
Move smart devices, TVs, and visitor devices onto this separate network

DNS & MONITORING

- Switch to a secure DNS provider**
Recommended: Quad9 (9.9.9.9) for automatic malware filtering at no cost
- Review connected devices list**
Log into router — investigate anything unfamiliar before dismissing it
- Schedule a monthly 10-minute network check**
Review devices, check firmware, confirm guest network is isolated

WANT TO GO DEEPER?

The SOHO 2026 Guide covers the full picture: network architecture, device segmentation, remote work security, and AI scam defense — with checklists and templates for home offices and small businesses.

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