

Beginner Network Audit Checklist

A simple self-audit for anyone who has never assessed their own network before.

From the TechODash Home & SOHO Network Security series. No prior experience assumed.

WHAT'S ACTUALLY ON YOUR NETWORK

- **You can name every device connected to your Wi-Fi**
Log into your router's admin panel and look at the connected device list — anything you don't recognize is worth investigating.
- **You know roughly how many smart home devices you own**
Cameras, speakers, TVs, thermostats, and doorbells all count — most households have more than they'd guess.

WHAT YOU'RE CURRENTLY RUNNING

- **You know your router's age and whether it's still supported**
A router over four or five years old may no longer receive security updates from its manufacturer.
- **You know what Wi-Fi encryption your network currently uses**
Check your Wi-Fi settings for WEP, WPA, WPA2, or WPA3 — this single setting matters more than most people realize.
- **You can log into your router's admin panel right now**
If you've forgotten the address or password, that's worth fixing before anything else on this list.

WHAT YOU'VE PROBABLY NEVER CHECKED

- **Whether a guest network is set up and actually being used**
Most routers include this feature already — it's just rarely turned on by default.
- **When your router's firmware was last updated**
Check the Administration or System section of your admin panel for a pending update.
- **Whether your router's default admin password has ever been changed**
If you're not sure, assume it hasn't been — and change it today.

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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