

How to Turn Off 5 GHz WiFi on Your Router

Turning off the 5 GHz WiFi capabilities on your router is necessary for WiFi router operations in the West Virginia Radio Astronomy Zone (WVRAZ). The process varies slightly depending on your router's brand and model, but the general steps are similar. ☒

Before You Begin

- **Locate your router's login credentials:** This is usually a sticker on the bottom or back of your router with a username and default password (often "admin" and/or "password" unless you have changed it). If you've changed them and forgotten, you might need to perform a factory reset on your router (which will reset all settings, including your WiFi password, to default).
- **Connect to your router:** You can do this via an Ethernet cable directly to your computer or wirelessly using your existing WiFi network. *Using a wired connection is recommended to avoid losing connection if you accidentally disable the WiFi you're currently using.*
- **Open a web browser:** You'll use this to access your router's administration page.

General Steps to Turn Off 5 GHz WiFi

1. Find Your Router's IP Address (Gateway IP):

- **Windows:** Open Command Prompt (search for "cmd") and type ipconfig. Look for "Default Gateway" under your active network adapter (Ethernet or Wi-Fi).
- **macOS:** Go to System Settings (or System Preferences) > Network. Select your active connection (Wi-Fi or Ethernet), click "Details" (or "Advanced"), and then "TCP/IP." Your router's IP will be listed as "Router."
- **Linux:** Open a terminal and type `ip r | grep default` or `route -n`. Look for the IP address next to "default."
- **Common IP Addresses:** Some common router IP addresses are 192.168.1.1, 192.168.0.1, 192.168.1.254, or 10.0.0.1.

2. Access Your Router's Administration Page:

- Open your web browser (Chrome, Firefox, Edge, Safari, etc.).
- In the address bar, type your router's IP address and press Enter.

3. Log In:

- You'll be prompted for a username and password. Enter the credentials you found on your router's sticker or your custom ones.

4. Navigate to Wireless Settings:

- Once logged in, the interface will vary, but you're looking for a section related to "Wireless," "WiFi," "Wireless Settings," "Wireless Setup," or "Network Settings."
- You might see sub-menus for "2.4 GHz" and "5 GHz" or "Dual Band" settings.

5. Disable the 5 GHz Band:

- Look for an option to enable or disable the 5 GHz network. It might be labeled as "Enable Wireless (5 GHz)," "5 GHz Radio," "5 GHz Network," or similar.
- Uncheck the box, toggle the switch to "Off," or select "Disable" for the 5 GHz band.
- Some routers might have a single "Dual Band" setting where you can uncheck the 5 GHz option.

6. Save Your Changes:

- **Crucial Step!** After making changes, look for a "Save," "Apply," "OK," or "Save Changes" button. If you don't save, your changes won't take effect.
- Your router may reboot after saving, which is normal.

General Troubleshooting:

- **Can't access the login page:** Double-check the IP address. Try clearing your browser's cache and cookies.
 - **Forgotten password:** You'll likely need to perform a factory reset on your router. There's usually a small pinhole button on the back that you hold down for 10-30 seconds (refer to your router's manual for exact instructions).
 - **Changes didn't take effect:** Make sure you clicked the "Save" or "Apply" button. The router might also need to reboot.
-

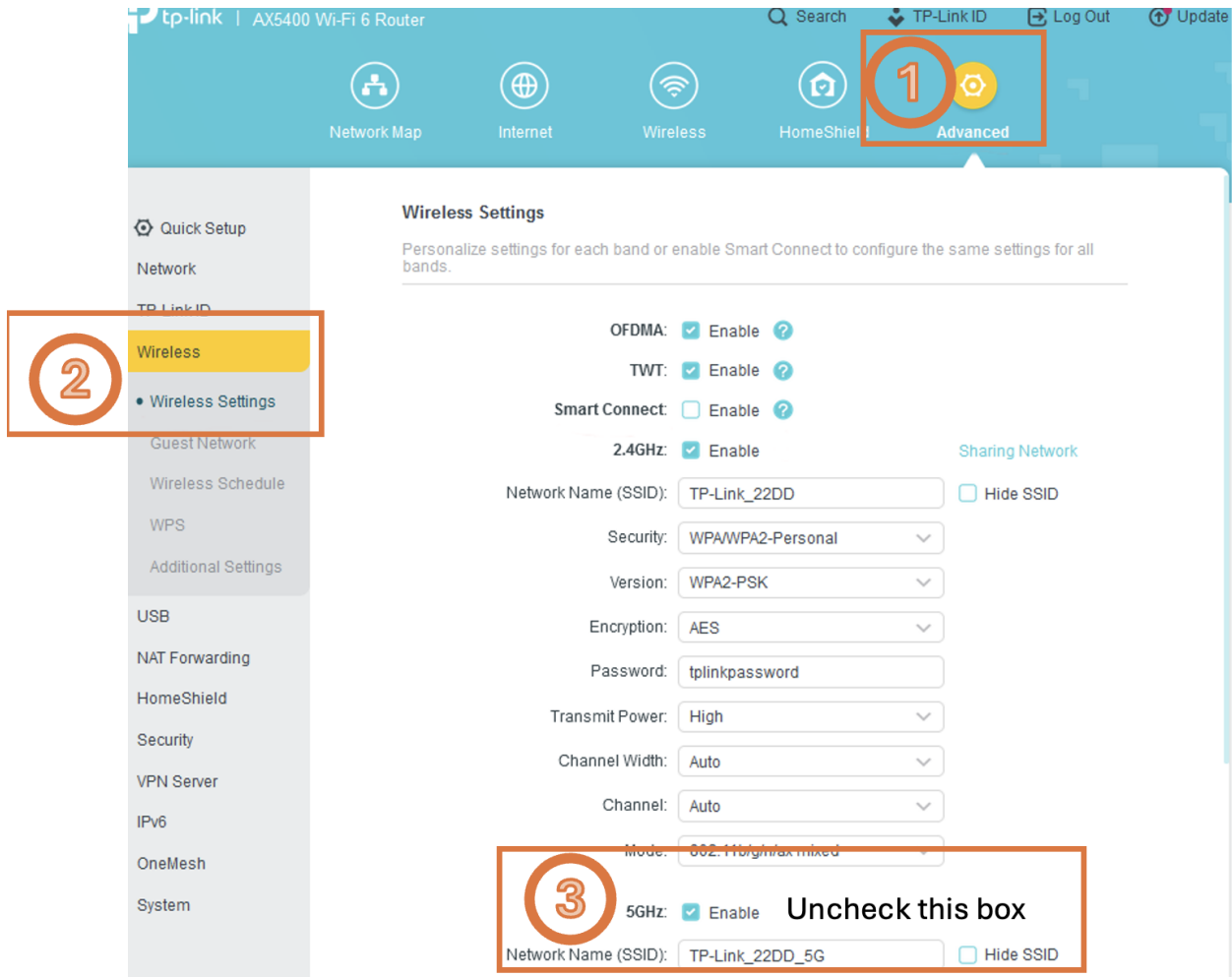
Examples for Common Router Brands

While the exact steps may vary slightly even for different models within a given brand, the detailed instructions below are provided for some of the most popular wireless routers.

Page #	Router Type
4	TP-Link Routers (e.g., Archer Series)
5	NETGEAR Routers (e.g., Nighthawk Series)
6	Linksys Routers
7	ASUS Routers
9	ARRIS Routers
12	Google Nest Wi-Fi / Google Wi-Fi

TP-Link Routers (e.g., Archer Series):

1. Log in to the web management page.
 - a. Go to **Advanced** > **Wireless** > **Wireless Settings**.
2. You'll likely see separate sections for **2.4GHz** and **5GHz**.
3. Uncheck the **Enable** box for the **5GHz** band.
 - a. Click **Save**.



NETGEAR Routers (e.g., Nighthawk Series):

1. Log in to the router's web interface (192.168.1.1).
 - a. Go to **Advanced** > **Advanced Setup** > **Wireless Setup**.
2. Scroll down to the **Wireless Advanced Settings (5 Ghz a/n/ac)** section.
3. Uncheck the **Enable Wireless Router Radio** box for the 5 GHz band.
4. Click **Apply**.

NETGEAR
Nighthawk R6700

1 **ADVANCED**

2 **Wireless Settings**

2 **Advanced Setup**

2 **Wireless Settings**

3 **Wireless Advanced Settings (5GHz a/n/ac)**

4 **Apply**

Uncheck this box

Wireless Advanced Settings (2.4GHz b/g/n)

☒ Enable Wireless Router Radio

Fragmentation Length (256-2346): 2346

CTS/RTS Threshold (1-2347): 2347

Preamble Mode: Long Preamble

☐ Turn off wireless signal by schedule

The wireless signal is scheduled to turn off during the following time period:

Period	Start	End	Recurrence Pattern
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	12:00midnight	07:30am	Every Day

[+ Add a new period](#) [Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Wireless Advanced Settings (5GHz a/n/ac)

☒ Enable Wireless Router Radio

Fragmentation Length (256-2346): 2346

CTS/RTS Threshold (1-2347): 2347

Preamble Mode: Long Preamble

☐ Turn off wireless signal by schedule

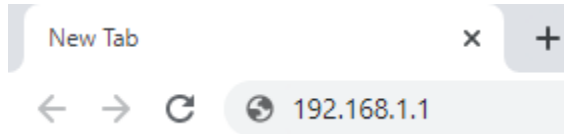
The wireless signal is scheduled to turn off during the following time period:

Period	Start	End	Recurrence Pattern
--------	-------	-----	--------------------

[+ Add a new period](#) [Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Linksys Routers:

1. Log in to the router's web interface (often 192.168.1.1).



2. Go to **Wireless > Basic Wireless Settings**.
3. Click **Manual**.
4. Set the Network Mode to **Disabled** for the 5 GHz Wi-Fi band.

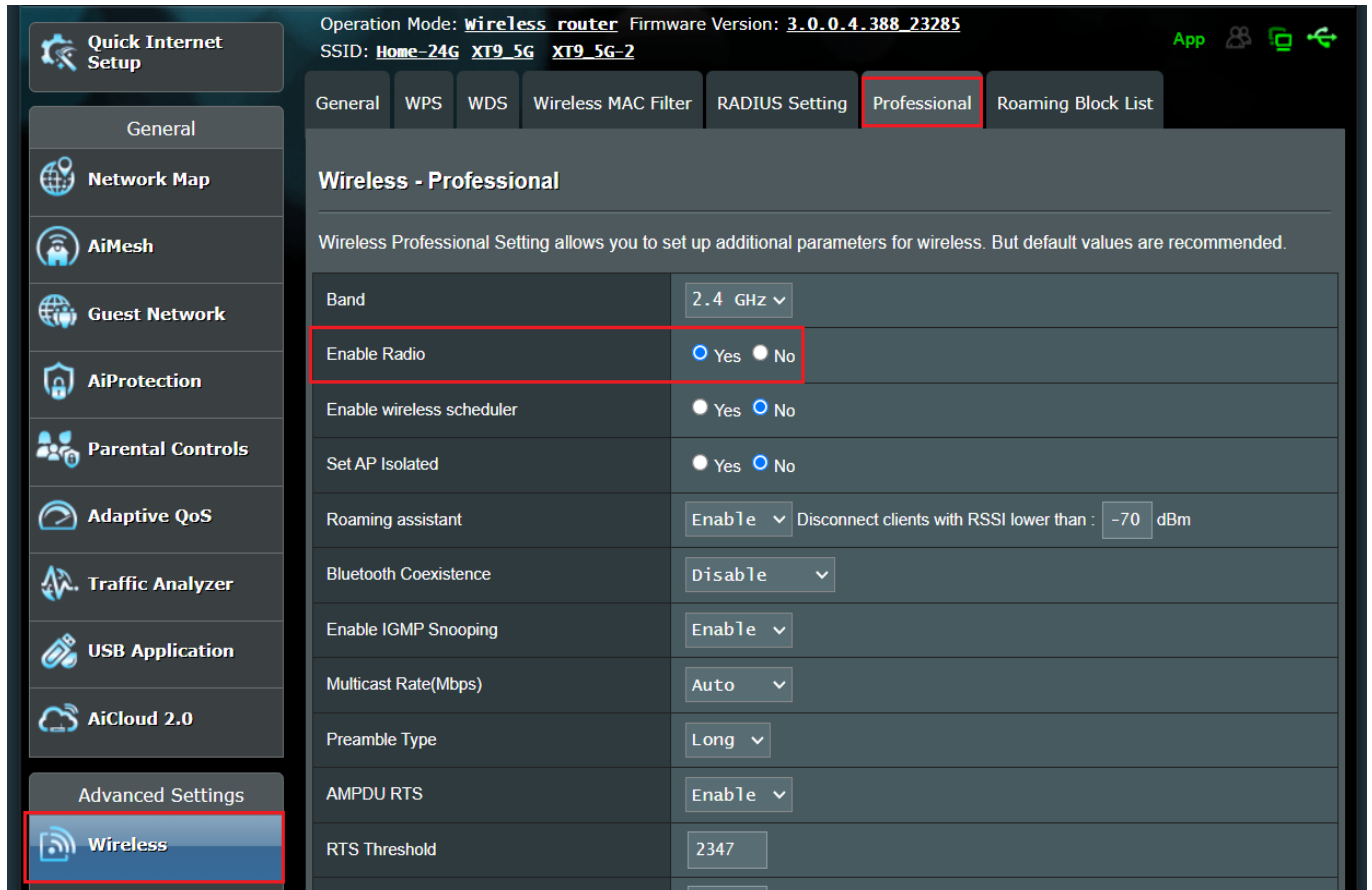
A screenshot of the Linksys Basic Wireless Settings page for the 5 GHz band. At the top, there are two radio buttons: 'Manual' (selected) and 'Wi-Fi Protected Setup™'. Below this, there are two sections. The top section is for the 5 GHz band, and the bottom section is for the 2.4 GHz band. In the 5 GHz section, 'Network Mode' is set to 'Disabled', 'Network Name (SSID)' is 'Linksys00011_5GHz', 'Channel Width' is '20 MHz Only', 'Channel' is 'Auto (DFS)', and 'SSID Broadcast' is 'Disabled'. In the 2.4 GHz section, 'Network Mode' is 'Disabled', 'Network Name (SSID)' is 'Linksys00011', 'Channel Width' is '20 MHz Only', 'Channel' is 'Auto', and 'SSID Broadcast' is 'Enabled'. Red boxes highlight the 'Disabled' dropdown for Network Mode, the SSID field 'Linksys00011_5GHz', and the 'Disabled' radio button for SSID Broadcast in the 5 GHz section.

Make sure this says 5 GHz at the end of the line!

5. Click **Apply** or **Save**.

ASUS Routers:

1. Log in to the router's web interface (often www.asusrouter.com or 192.168.1.1).
2. Go to **Wireless** in the left-hand menu. Then, go to the **Professional** tab in the upper middle of the screen.



- Under the **Professional** tab, select **5GHz** from the **Band** dropdown menu. *Note: This screenshot below shows what this looks like for 2.4 GHz WiFi - do not disable 2.4 GHz WiFi unless you plan on using only ethernet!*

The screenshot shows the 'Wireless - Professional' settings page. The 'Band' dropdown menu is open, displaying the following options: 2.4GHz (selected), 2.4GHz, 5GHz-1, and 5GHz-2. The 'Enable Radio' option is currently set to 'Yes'.

- Toggle the **Enable Radio** option to **No**.

The screenshot shows the 'Wireless - Professional' settings page. The 'Band' dropdown menu is set to '5 GHz'. The 'Enable Radio' option is now set to 'No'.

- Click **Apply**.

The screenshot shows the 'Apply' button.

ARRIS Routers:

1. Log in to the router's web interface (often <http://10.0.0.1>) and then login. Unless you have changed the default username and password, the username should be "admin" and the password "password."

The screenshot displays the ARRIS router's web interface. At the top left is the ARRIS logo. To the right, there are status indicators for Internet (green check), Ethernet (green check), Wi-Fi (red X), MoCA (red X), and Low Security (red X). A language dropdown menu is set to 'English'. On the left side, there is a login form with fields for 'Username:' and 'Password:', and a 'LOGIN' button. A message above the form says 'Please login to view your Wi-Fi password or to view and edit detailed network settings.' The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Device Info' showing the 'Software Image Name' as 'AR01.04.070.09_021522_7246.NC.S.10.X1'; 'Wi-Fi Status' showing 'Home' and 'Guest' networks with their respective SSIDs and frequencies; and 'Home Network' showing 'Ethernet' as active and 'Wi-Fi' and 'MoCA' as inactive, along with a 'Firewall Security Level: Low' warning. A red warning message at the bottom right states 'Warning: Unsupported Browser'. The footer contains the text 'ARRIS • Customer Support • Open Source'.

2. Click on **Gateway > Connection**.
3. Click on **Wi-Fi**.

Gateway > Summary

Summary of your network and connected devices. [more](#)

Wi-Fi Status

Home

- 2.4GHz SSID: [ARRIS-5A81](#)
- 5GHz SSID: [ARRIS-5A81-5G](#)

Guest

- 2.4GHz SSID: [ARRIS-5A81-4](#)
- 5GHz SSID: [ARRIS-5A81-5G-4](#)

Bridge Mode:

Home Network

- ☒ Ethernet
- ☒ Wi-Fi
- ☒ MoCA

Firewall Security Level: Low

Connected Devices

- ☒ Unknown
- ☒ Unknown
- ☒ Air4920
- ☒ Air4920-2
- ☒ android-e62f395e37d3942f

- Click on **5 GHz Radio**.
- Click on “**Disable**” on the **Wireless Radio** option.

Gateway > Connection > Wi-Fi > 2.4 GHz Radio

Manage your Wi-Fi connection settings. [more](#)

5 GHz Wi-Fi Radio Configuration

Wireless Radio:

Mode:

Tx Power:

Channel Selection: ☐ Manual ☒ Automatic

Channel:

Channel Bandwidth: ☐ 20 ☐ 20/40 ☒ Auto

Dynamic Channel Selection: ☒ Disable ☐ Enable

DCS Scan Interval:

BG Protection Mode:

IGMP Snooping: ☒ Disable ☐ Enable

Operation Mode: ☒ Mixed Mode ☐ Green Field

Guard Interval: ☐ 400ns ☐ 800ns ☒ Auto

Extension Channel:

Aggregation MSDU(A-MSDU): ☒ Disable ☐ Enable

Auto Block Ack: ☒ Disable ☐ Enable

Decline BA Request: ☒ Disable ☐ Enable

WMM Power Save: ☐

This item depends on WMM. Enable WMM in at least one SSID to make this work.

Google Nest Wi-Fi / Google Wi-Fi:

- These systems are designed for simplicity and typically don't offer granular control over disabling specific bands from the web interface. They use band steering to automatically connect devices to the optimal band.
 - **Google Nest Wi-Fi does not allow at this time for shut off of 5 GHz networks across all devices. For this reason, it is not the best choice for a wireless router operating within the WVRAZ.**
-