


Chapter 7

Troubleshooting

This chapter gives information about troubleshooting your RangeMax 240 Wireless Router WPNT834. After each problem description, instructions are provided to help you diagnose and solve the problem.

Basic Functioning

After you turn on power to the router, the following sequence of events should occur:

1. When power is first applied, verify that the Power light  is on.
2. After approximately 10 seconds, verify that:
 - a. The power light is solid green.
 - b. The LAN port lights are lit for any local ports that are connected.
 - c. The Internet port light is lit.
 - d. A port light is lit, to indicate a link has been established to the connected device. If a LAN port is connected to a 100 Mbps device, verify that the port's light is green. If the port is connected to a 10 Mbps device, the light is amber.

If any of the above conditions does not occur, see the appropriate following section.

Power Light Not On

If the Power and other lights are off when your router is turned on:

- Make sure that the power cord is properly connected to your router and that the power supply adapter is properly connected to a functioning power outlet.
- Check that you are using the 12V DC 1A power adapter that NETGEAR supplies for this product.

If the error persists, you have a hardware problem and should contact technical support.

Lights Never Turn Off

When the router is turned on, the lights turn on for about 10 seconds and then turn off. If all the lights stay on, there is a fault within the router.

If all lights are still on one minute after power up:

- Cycle the power to see if the router recovers.
- Clear the router's configuration to factory defaults. This sets the router's IP address to 192.168.1.1. The procedure is explained in [“Restoring the Default Configuration and Password” on page 7-7](#).

If the error persists, you might have a hardware problem and should contact technical support.

LAN or WAN Port Lights Not On

If either the LAN lights or Internet light do not light when the Ethernet connection is made, check the following:

- Make sure that the Ethernet cable connections are secure at the router and at the hub or workstation.
- Make sure that power is turned on to the connected hub or workstation.
- Be sure you are using the correct cable:
 - When connecting the router's Internet port to a cable or DSL modem, use the cable that was supplied with the cable or DSL modem. This cable could be a standard straight-through Ethernet cable or an Ethernet crossover cable.

Troubleshooting the Web Configuration Interface

If you are unable to access the router's Web Configuration interface from a computer on your local network, check the following:

- Check the Ethernet connection between the computer and the router as described in the previous section.
- Make sure your computer's IP address is on the same subnet as the router. If you are using the recommended addressing scheme, your computer's address should be in the range of 192.168.1.2 to 192.168.1.254. For instructions, see [“Preparing a Computer for Network Access” in Appendix B](#) to configure your computer.



Note: If your computer's IP address is shown as 169.254.x.x: Recent versions of Windows and Mac OS will generate and assign an IP address if the computer cannot reach a DHCP server. These auto-generated addresses are in subnet 169.254.x.x. If your IP address is in this range, check the connection from the computer to the router and reboot your computer.

- If your router's IP address has been changed and you don't know the current IP address, clear the router's configuration to factory defaults. This sets the router's IP address to 192.168.1.1. This procedure is explained in [“Restoring the Default Configuration and Password” on page 7-7](#).
- Make sure your browser has Java, JavaScript, or ActiveX enabled. If you are using Internet Explorer, click **Refresh** to be sure the Java applet is loaded.
- Try quitting the browser and launching it again.
- Make sure you are using the correct login information. The factory default login name is **admin** and the password is **password**. Make sure that CAPS LOCK is off when entering this information.

If the router does not save changes you have made in the Web Configuration Interface, check the following:

- When entering configuration settings, be sure to click the **Apply** button before moving to another menu or tab, or your changes are lost.
- Click the **Refresh** or **Reload** button in the Web browser. The changes may have occurred, but the Web browser may be caching the old configuration.

Troubleshooting the ISP Connection

If your router is unable to access the Internet, you should first determine whether the router is able to obtain a WAN IP address from the ISP. Unless you have been assigned a static IP address, your router must request an IP address from the ISP. You can determine whether the request was successful using the Web Configuration Manager.

To check the WAN IP address:

1. Launch your browser and select an external site such as www.netgear.com
2. Access the main menu of the router's configuration at <http://www.routerlogin.net>.
3. Under the Maintenance heading, select **Router Status**.
4. Check that an IP address is shown for the WAN Port.
If 0.0.0.0 is shown, your router has not obtained an IP address from your ISP.

If your router is unable to obtain an IP address from the ISP, you may need to force your cable or DSL modem to recognize your new router by performing the following procedure:

1. Turn off power to the cable or DSL modem.
2. Turn off power to your router.
3. Wait five minutes and reapply power to the cable or DSL modem.
4. When the modem's lights indicate that it has reacquired sync with the ISP, reapply power to your router.
5. Then restart your computer.

If your router is still unable to obtain an IP address from the ISP, the problem may be one of the following:

- Your ISP may require a login program.
Ask your ISP whether they require PPP over Ethernet (PPPoE) or some other type of login.
- If your ISP requires a login, you may have incorrectly set the login name and password.
- Your ISP may check for your computer's host name.
Assign the computer Host Name of your ISP account as the Account Name in the Basic Settings menu.
- Your ISP only allows one Ethernet MAC address to connect to Internet, and may check for your computer's MAC address. In this case:

Inform your ISP that you have bought a new network device, and ask them to use the router's MAC address.

OR

Configure your router to spoof your computer's MAC address. This can be done in the Basic Settings menu. For more information, see [“How to Bypass the Configuration Assistant” on page 3-8](#).

If your router can obtain an IP address, but your computer is unable to load any Web pages from the Internet:

- Your computer may not recognize any DNS server addresses.

A DNS server is a host on the Internet that translates Internet names (such as www addresses) to numeric IP addresses. Typically your ISP will provide the addresses of one or two DNS servers for your use. If you entered a DNS address during the router's configuration, reboot your computer and verify the DNS address as described in [“Preparing a Computer for Network Access” in Appendix B](#). Alternatively, you may configure your computer manually with DNS addresses, as explained in your operating system documentation.

- Your computer may not have the router configured as its TCP/IP gateway.

If your computer obtains its information from the router by DHCP, reboot the computer and verify the gateway address as described in [“Preparing a Computer for Network Access” in Appendix B](#).

Troubleshooting a TCP/IP Network Using a Ping Utility

Most TCP/IP terminal devices and routers contain a ping utility that sends an echo request packet to the designated device. The device then responds with an echo reply. Troubleshooting a TCP/IP network is made very easy by using the ping utility in your computer or workstation.

Testing the LAN Path to Your Router

You can ping the router from your computer to verify that the LAN path to your router is set up correctly.

To ping the router from a running Windows 95 or later:

1. From the Windows toolbar, click on the **Start** button and select **Run**.
2. In the field provided, type Ping followed by the IP address of the router, as in this example:

```
ping 192.168.1.1
```

3. Click **OK**.

You should see a message like this one:

```
Pinging <IP address> with 32 bytes of data
```

If the path is working, you see this message:

```
Reply from < IP address >: bytes=32 time=NN ms TTL=xxx
```

If the path is not working, you see this message:

```
Request timed out
```

If the path is not functioning correctly, you could have one of the following problems:

- Wrong physical connections
 - Make sure the LAN port LED is on. If the LED is off, follow the instructions in [“LAN or WAN Port Lights Not On”](#) on page 7-2.
 - Check that the corresponding Link LEDs are on for your network interface card and for the hub ports (if any) that are connected to your workstation and router.
- Wrong network configuration
 - Verify that the Ethernet card driver software and TCP/IP software are both installed and configured on your computer or workstation.
 - Verify that the IP address for your router and your workstation are correct and that the addresses are on the same subnet.

Testing the Path from Your Computer to a Remote Device

After verifying that the LAN path works correctly, test the path from your computer to a remote device. From the Windows run menu, type:

```
PING -n 10 <IP address>
```

where *<IP address>* is the IP address of a remote device such as your ISP’s DNS server.

If the path is functioning correctly, replies like those shown in the previous section are displayed.

If you do not receive replies:

- Check that your computer has the IP address of your router listed as the default gateway. If the IP configuration of your computer is assigned by DHCP, this information will not be visible in your computer’s Network Control Panel. Verify that the IP address of the router is listed as the default gateway as described in [“Preparing a Computer for Network Access”](#) in Appendix B.
- Check to see that the network address of your computer (the portion of the IP address specified by the subnet mask) is different from the network address of the remote device.

- Check that your cable or DSL modem is connected and functioning.
- If your ISP assigned a host name to your computer, enter that host name as the Account Name in the Basic Settings menu.
- Your ISP could be rejecting the Ethernet MAC addresses of all but one of your computers. Many broadband ISPs restrict access by only allowing traffic from the MAC address of your broadband modem, but some ISPs additionally restrict access to the MAC address of a single computer connected to that modem. If this is the case, you must configure your router to “clone” or “spoof” the MAC address from the authorized computer. For more information, see [“How to Bypass the Configuration Assistant” on page 3-8](#).

Restoring the Default Configuration and Password

This section explains how to restore the factory default configuration settings, changing the router’s administration password to **password** and the IP address to 192.168.1.1. You can erase the current configuration and restore factory defaults in two ways:

- Use the Erase function of the router (see [“Erasing the Configuration” on page 6-6](#)).
- Use the Default Reset button on the rear panel of the router. Use this method for cases when the administration password or IP address is not known.

To restore the factory default configuration settings without knowing the administration password or IP address, you must use the Default Reset button on the rear panel of the router.

1. Press and hold the Default Reset button until the test light blinks on (about 10 seconds).
2. Release the Default Reset button and wait for the router to reboot.

If the wireless router fails to restart or the power light continues to blink or turns solid amber, the unit may be defective. If the error persists, you might have a hardware problem and should contact technical support.

Problems with Date and Time

The E-mail menu in the Content Filtering section displays the current date and time of day. The WPNT834 router uses the Network Time Protocol (NTP) to obtain the current time from one of several Network Time Servers on the Internet. Each entry in the log is stamped with the date and time of day. Problems with the date and time function can include:

- Date shown is January 1, 2000. Cause: The router has not yet successfully reached a Network Time Server. Check that your Internet access settings are configured correctly. If you have just completed configuring the router, wait at least five minutes and check the date and time again.
- Time is off by one hour. Cause: The router does not automatically sense Daylight Savings Time. In the E-mail menu, check or clear the box marked “Adjust for Daylight Savings Time”.