

5: APPS FOR INSTALLING AND MANAGING Wi-Fi ROUTERS AND MESH UNITS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

When you install a Wi-Fi router or a Wi-Fi mesh unit, you have to use a cell phone app that is provided by the manufacturer of the Wi-Fi router or the Wi-Fi mesh unit.

TOPICS

- To install or manage a Wi-Fi router or a Wi-Fi mesh unit
- Picking the proper manufacturer's app
- When repairing a mesh unit(s), try a soft system reset

MANUFACTURER'S CELL PHONE APPS FOR INSTALLING MESH DEVICES AND Wi- Fi ROUTERS

- Initial installation of a Wi-Fi router or a mesh device usually has to be done with a manufacturer's proprietary cell phone app

MANUFACTURER'S CELL PHONE APPS FOR INSTALLING MESH DEVICES AND Wi- Fi ROUTERS

- For TP-Link's BE19000 "Wi-Fi 7" router, we were able to install it with a Web browser connected to its default "Wireless Access Point". For obvious security reasons, this default "Wireless Access Point" disappears after the initial installation.

MANUFACTURER'S CELL PHONE APPS FOR INSTALLING MESH DEVICES AND Wi- Fi ROUTERS

- Some Wi-Fi routers and mesh units let you manage and repair them with a Web browser "User Interface" after initial installation:

For example, TP-Link's BE19000 "Wi-Fi 7" router has a Web-based "User Interface" at <http://192.168.0.1>

TP-LINK EXAMPLE OF MULTIPLE APPS FOR INSTALLATION, MANAGEMENT, AND REPAIR

- <https://www.tp-link.com/us/support/faq/2914/>
- Use TP-Link's "Deco" cell phone app for TP-Link's Deco mesh units
- Use TP-Link's "Tether" cell phone app to management and repair TP-Link's BE19000 "Wi-Fi 7" router

TP-LINK EXAMPLE OF MULTIPLE APPS FOR INSTALLATION, MANAGEMENT, AND REPAIR (continued)

- In contrast, TP-Link's "Deco" mesh units do not have a Web page for management and repair:
To install, manage, and repair "Deco" mesh units, you have to use a cell phone that has TP-Link's "Deco" app.

MORE APP EXAMPLES

- <https://eero.com/app>
- <https://www.asus.com/us/content/asus-router-app/>
- <https://support.google.com/googlennest/answer/7183148?sjid=13402446972956383990-NA>
- <https://www.linksys.com/get-mobile-app/>

WHEN REPAIRING A MESH UNIT(S)..

- Even if the mesh unit's cell phone app does not tell you to, try a soft system reset.
Soft system resets have often repaired problems with mesh units even when the mesh unit's cell phone app tells you that the problem is specific to a specific mesh unit

WHEN REPAIRING A MESH UNIT(S) (continued)..

- If a soft system reset does not repair a mesh unit, try resetting each and every mesh unit by pressing the reset button on each unit. Then use the manufacturer's cell phone app to reinstall the entire mesh system. Doing so sometimes repairs the failed mesh unit even if the manufacturer's cell phone app is pointing you to a single failed mesh unit.