

# Public vs. Private Network Wi-Fi Settings

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## Public vs. Private Network Wi-Fi Settings

This article details the steps required to change the default **Wi-Fi Network Settings** for your laptop or PC. The Accelerator 3 software requires that a **Private network is enabled** allowing for Accelerator 3 file downloading and other networked features.

*Note: This articles details both a Windows 10 and a Windows 11 OS installation*

### Network status



### Symptoms:

- Failing to discover a URC device within Step #6b: URC Devices
- Failing to download to a URC device when performing a system download
- Hanging up at approximately 10% complete when downloading

On **Private networks**, Windows enables network discovery features. Other devices can see your Windows computer on the network, allowing for easy file sharing and other networked features.

On **Public networks**—like those in coffee shops—you don't want your computer to be seen by others, though, or share your files with them. So Windows turns off these discovery features. It won't appear to other devices on the network and won't try to discover them.

When you first connect to a **Wi-Fi network**, you can set it as public or private—depending on the network and what you want to do.

This can cause issues when connecting and downloading to a Total Control system **due to the default setting usually being the "Public network" setting**.

This "Public network" setting enacts more stringent network firewalls and network discovery settings that don't allow the Accelerator 3 software to function properly:

### Windows 10

After you connect to a network the first time, you can change it to public or private at any time.

### To set a Wi-Fi network to public or private when you first connect

1. On the right side of the taskbar, select the **Wi-Fi network**  icon.
2. Select the Wi-Fi network you want to connect to, then select **Connect**.
3. Type the network password, and then select **Next**.
4. When asked if you want your PC to be discoverable to other devices on the network, do one of the following:
  - To set it as a private network where your PC will be discoverable to other devices on the network, choose **Yes**.
  - To set it as a public network where your PC won't be discoverable to other devices on the network, choose **No**.

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To check and/or change your network settings if having the issues listed above:

### To change a Wi-Fi network to public or private

1. On the right side of the taskbar, select the **Wi-Fi network**  icon.
2. Under the name of the Wi-Fi network that you're connected to, select **Properties**.
3. Under **Network profile**, select **Public** or **Private**.

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**Note:** To use these steps to set a network to public or private, your PC must be running Windows 10 Version 1709 or later. To see which version of Windows 10 your device is currently running, select **Start** , then select **Settings**  > **System**  > **About** .

If you are currently connected using the Public Network profile, the Wi-Fi status will look like the image below:

# Status

## Network status



You're connected to the Internet

If you have a limited data plan, you can make this network a metered connection or change other properties.

Wi-Fi (Luxul\_XAP-1610\_5G) 4 MB  
From the last 30 days

Properties Data usage

To change the profile type, click on the Properties button and then select the **Private** radio button as shown below:

← Settings

🏠 Luxul\_XAP-1610\_5G

Connect automatically when in range

On

### Network profile

Public ←

Your PC is hidden from other devices on the network and can't be used for printer and file sharing.

Private ←

For a network you trust, such as at home or work. Your PC is discoverable and can be used for printer and file sharing if you set it up.

[Configure firewall and security settings](#)

Windows 11 is slightly different in how you access the Wi-Fi settings screen as compared to Windows 10.

## **Windows 11**

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When you first connect to a Wi-Fi network in Windows 11, it's set as public by default. This is the *recommended* setting. However, you can set it as public or private depending on the network and what you want to do:

- **Public network (Recommended).** Use this for networks you connect to at home, work, or in a public place. You should use this in most cases. Your PC will be hidden from other devices on the network. Therefore, you can't use your PC for file and printer sharing.
- **Private network.** Your PC is discoverable to other devices on the network, and you can use your PC for file and printer sharing. You should know and trust the people and devices on the network.

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To change a Wi-Fi network to public or private

1. Select the **Start** button, then type **settings**. Select **Settings > Network & internet > Wi-Fi**.
2. On the Wi-Fi settings screen, select **Manage known networks**, and then select the Wi-Fi network you want to change.
3. On the Wi-Fi network screen, under **Network profile type**, select **Public (Recommended)** or **Private**.

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## **Additional Information & Resources:**

To learn more about how to make a Wi-Fi network public or private in Windows, please visit the [Make a Wi-Fi network public or private in Windows](#) support page.

To learn more about configuring Microsoft Defender Firewall in Windows, please visit the [Best practices for configuring Windows Defender Firewall](#) website.

Please refer to [this article](#) for Total Control PC Basic Network Settings.

To learn more about Accelerator 3 configuration and programming, please see the Accelerator 3 online [Programming Guide](#).

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