



Your Wi-Fi Name Might Be Saying Too Much

Your Wi-Fi network name, also known as SSID (Set Service IDentifier), may seem harmless. It's just a name, right? But that little label your phone sees when it's looking for a connection can reveal more about you than you realize. Many people name their Wi-Fi after themselves, their family, their address, or even their internet provider. Convenient? Yes. Private? Not so much.

When your Wi-Fi name includes personal details like your last name, apartment number, or the make of your router, you're giving strangers useful information without meaning to. Anyone nearby can see your network name, whether they're a neighbor, a delivery driver, or someone sitting in a parked car. For someone with bad intentions, that information can help identify where you live, what equipment you use, or even which network might be easiest to target. It's a bit like putting a name tag on your front door that says, "Hi, here's who lives here and what they're using."

The fix is simple: choose a Wi-Fi name that doesn't reveal anything personal. Avoid names that include your name, address, apartment number, or internet provider. Instead, pick something generic or mildly humorous that doesn't point back to you—think "BlueChairNetwork" or "CoffeePoweredWiFi." You'll still recognize it, but it won't give away details about your home. Your Wi-Fi name doesn't need to be clever or intimidating; it just needs to be boring enough that it doesn't tell strangers anything useful.

One-Minute Home Wi-Fi Security Check

Run through this list occasionally, it takes about a minute and can save you a lot of headaches later.

- Changed the default Wi-Fi name (no names, addresses, or provider info)
- Changed the router's default admin password
- Using **WPA2 or WPA3** encryption
- Router firmware is up to date
- Guest network enabled for visitors
- Unused devices removed from the network

Quick rule:

If your router still has the settings it came with, so do the bad guys. Routers come with generic login information that everyone knows, so ALWAYS change the sign in credentials.