

Using San José Public Library Branch WiFi

How do I use wireless at the library?

The San José Public Library System uses the WiFi standard (also known as IEEE 802.11b). You will need to bring your own laptop computer to the library and it will need to have built-in WiFi or you will need to install a WiFi network card. Most WiFi equipment will be compatible. However, the library system makes no guarantees as to the compatibility of your equipment with the library's network. Printers are not part of the Wireless Internet Access program in the libraries. If you need to print, please save the work to diskette/flash memory, then login to a public workstation and send print jobs to a printer.

Will I need any special settings or passwords to connect?

As the library's network is open to all visitors, no special encryption settings are required. Use "public" for both username and password.

Can the library help me configure my computer?

Some helpful tips are included on this page. Since everyone's computer is different, you are responsible for knowing how to configure your own equipment. San José Public Library System cannot be held responsible for any changes you make to your computer's settings. If you require assistance, you may need to contact the manufacturers of your hardware or software.

General Information for All Systems

NOTE: These instructions are general guidelines and require that you understand how to configure and restore the settings of your own computer. It is best to try using the Internet before attempting any of the suggested changes. The library is not responsible for any changes users make to their computer settings and cannot guarantee that a user's hardware will work with the library's wireless connection.

This information can be made available on request in alternate formats such as large print, Braille or computer disk by calling (408) 808-2397 or (408) 808-3130 TTY.

Wireless Card Settings:

Use the software that came with your wireless card or computer to configure the settings and to verify a connection to the library's wireless network.

SSID (network name) = "any" or "branch name" (without quotes)

WEP = disable WEP encryption

Mode or Network Type = Infrastructure mode or Access Point

Windows 98

From Control Panel, select Network.

Locate the TCP/IP protocol and get into its Properties. If more than one TCP/IP protocol is listed, look for the one associated with your wireless adapter.

For IP Address, select "Obtain an IP address automatically."

For DNS, select "Disable DNS."

For WINS, select "Use DHCP for WINS Resolution."

Windows 2000 & XP

From Control Panel, select "Network and Dial-up Connections" or "Network and Internet Connections > Internet Connections."

Right-click on "Wireless Network Connection" or "Local Area Connection" and click Properties.

Locate the Internet TCP/IP protocol and get into its Properties. If more than one TCP/IP protocol is listed, look for the one associated with your wireless adapter.

Select "Obtain an IP address automatically" and "Obtain DNS server address automatically."

For XP, right click on "Wireless Network Connection" and select "View Available Wireless Networks."

Select the "branch name" network click "Connect."

Windows NT

From Control Panel, select Network.

Locate the TCP/IP protocol and get into its Properties. If more than one TCP/IP protocol is listed, look for the one associated with your wireless adapter.

Select "Obtain an IP address from a DHCP server" and click OK

Windows Vista

From the Start menu select "NETWORK" button on the right.

Select "Network and Sharing Center" tab.

Click on "Managed Network Connections" under the Tasks list on the left.

Right-click on "Wireless Network Connection" or "Local Area Connection" and click Properties.

Locate and highlight the Internet TCP/IP protocol and get into its Properties. If more than one TCP/IP protocol is listed, look for the one associated with your wireless adapter (Usually IP Version 4 – TCP\IPv4)

Click on the Properties button and choose "Obtain an IP address automatically" and "Obtain DNS server address automatically" then hit OK button.

Close "Wireless Network Properties" box.

Right-click on "Wireless Network Connection" and select "Connect / Disconnect" and select the "branch name" network.

Click "Connect."

Internet Explorer Tips:

Please note that depending on your version of software, there may be variations in the procedures.

From Control Panel, select Internet Options > Connections tab.

If you also have a dial-up connection, it should not be set to "Always dial my default connection."

LAN Settings should be "Automatically detect settings" and leave the Proxy server settings blank.

Macintosh (OS 8 & 9)

Select: Apple Menu > Control Panel > TCP/IP.

Connect via "AirPort" or other wireless (WiFi) ethernet.

Configure "Using DHCP Server."

Leave Name Server and Additional Search domains blank.

Macintosh (OS X)

Select: Apple Menu > System Preferences > Network button.

Select TCP/IP tab and Configure "Using DHCP."

Above the TCP/IP tab, you may need to Configure via "AirPort" or other wireless (WiFi) ethernet.

Leave Domain Name Servers and Search Domains blank.

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