

Finding Wi-Fi Passwords

Introduction

Generally, Wi-Fi networks require a password to prevent anyone from just logging in (except on public networks). However, once logged on at a site, the computer remembers the password, so it is never typed in again. In many cases, a visitor may ask for the Wi-Fi password, and you invariably cannot remember or find it. After years of PC support experience, remembering passwords is the biggest stumbling block we encounter.

So, this fact sheet explains how to find the passwords for the current network, which you are on and all those which have been stored in the past. It covers Windows, Mac, Android (Samsung) and iPhone.

Windows:

For the network you're *currently* connected to:

1. Open **Settings**.
2. Go to **Network & Internet**.
3. Select **Wi-Fi** → **Hardware properties** (Windows 10) or **Wi-Fi properties** (Windows 11).
4. Click **Show password**.

For *all* previously connected Wi-Fi networks:

- Open **Command Prompt** (Start → type cmd).
- Then at the prompt type:

`netsh wlan show profiles`

and this lists all saved Wi-Fi networks.

1. To reveal a password for one specific network, type the following at the prompt:

```
netsh wlan show profile name="NETWORK_NAME" key=clear
```

(replace "NETWORK NAME" with your own Wi-Fi Name) In this example, it is "PLUSNET-P6CFXW", and the password has been changed for security and privacy purposes

```
C:\Users\steve>netsh wlan show profile name=PLUSNET-P6CFXW key=clear
```

2. Look for **Key Content** under **Security settings**.

```
Security settings
-----
Authentication      : WPA2-Personal
Cipher              : CCMP
Authentication      : WPA2-Personal
Cipher              : GCMP
Security key         : Present
Key Content          : PCrxaQK6GQGtR
```

MAC:

1. Open **Keychain Access** (Spotlight → type "Keychain Access").
2. In the search bar, type the Wi-Fi network name.
3. Open the matching entry.
4. Tick **Show password**.
5. Enter your Mac's login password when asked.

Android (varies by manufacturer)

Most modern Android devices allow you to see saved Wi-Fi passwords.

1. Go to **Settings** → **Network & Internet** → **Wi-Fi**.
2. Tap the network you want.
3. Look for **Share** (it may show a QR code).
4. The password is visible under or beside the QR code.

Samsung Galaxy S22 (& possibly other Samsungs- not tested)

View Password for the Current Wi-Fi Network

1. Open **Settings**.
2. Tap **Connections**.
3. Tap **Wi-Fi**.
4. Make sure you are connected to the Wi-Fi network whose password you want.
5. Tap the **gear icon** next to the connected network.
6. Tap **QR code** at the bottom of the screen.
7. A QR code will appear — tap **Save as image** or **Share**.
8. Under the QR code, you will see the **Wi-Fi password in plain text**.

View Password for a Previously Used Network

Samsung only allows password viewing **when you're connected**, but you can still view old passwords like this:

1. Go to **Settings** → **Connections** → **Wi-Fi**.
2. Tap the **three-dot menu** (top right).
3. Select **Advanced** or **Manage networks** (depends on software version).

4. Tap the network you want → tap **QR code**.
5. The password will show under the QR code.

OPTIONAL: Extract password from QR code (if text not shown)

If the phone doesn't display the password directly:

1. Take a screenshot of the QR code.
2. Open **Gallery** → choose the screenshot.
3. Tap the **Bixby Vision** icon or **QR scanner**.
4. It will decode the QR code and show the **password text**.

How to View Wi-Fi Passwords on iPhone X (iOS 16+)

See the password for the Wi-Fi network you're currently connected to

1. Open **Settings**.
2. Tap **Wi-Fi**.
3. Tap the “i” (**info**) icon next to your connected Wi-Fi network.
4. Tap **Password** (it appears as •••••).
5. Use **Face ID**, **Touch ID**, or your **passcode** to reveal the password.

See passwords for networks you connected to in the past

1. Go to **Settings** → **Wi-Fi**.
2. Tap **Edit** in the top-right corner.
3. Authenticate (Face ID / Touch ID / passcode).
4. You'll now see a full list of saved networks.
5. Tap the “i” icon next to any network with a padlock.
6. Tap **Password** to reveal it.

Optional (iOS 18+): Use the Passwords app

If your iPhone X is updated far enough (iOS 18):

1. Open the **Passwords** app.
2. Tap **Wi-Fi**.
3. Choose the desired network.
4. Tap **Password** to reveal/copy it.

If your iPhone X is on iOS 15 or earlier

Apple did **not** allow viewing saved Wi-Fi passwords directly on the device before iOS 16.

In that case, you must use a **Mac with iCloud Keychain** to look them up.