

Wireless Network Security Assessment

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Part 1: Network Discovery

Network Name (SSID)	Signal Strength	Security Type	Special Characteristics
1. [REDACTED] (Home Network)	Strong	WPA2	Personal Network

- The network name (SSID) is [REDACTED], and it is a personal network.

Network & internet > Wi-Fi > [REDACTED]

Public network (Recommended)
Your device is not discoverable on the network. Use this in most cases—when connected to a network at home, work, or in a public place.

Private network
Your device is discoverable on the network. Select this if you need file sharing or use apps that communicate over this network. You should know and trust the people and devices on the network.

Configure firewall and security settings

Metered connection
Some apps might work differently to reduce data usage when you're connected to this network Off

Set a data limit to help control data usage on this network

Random hardware addresses
Help protect your privacy by making it harder for people to track your device location when you connect to this network. The setting takes effect the next time you connect to this network. Off

IP assignment: Automatic (DHCP)

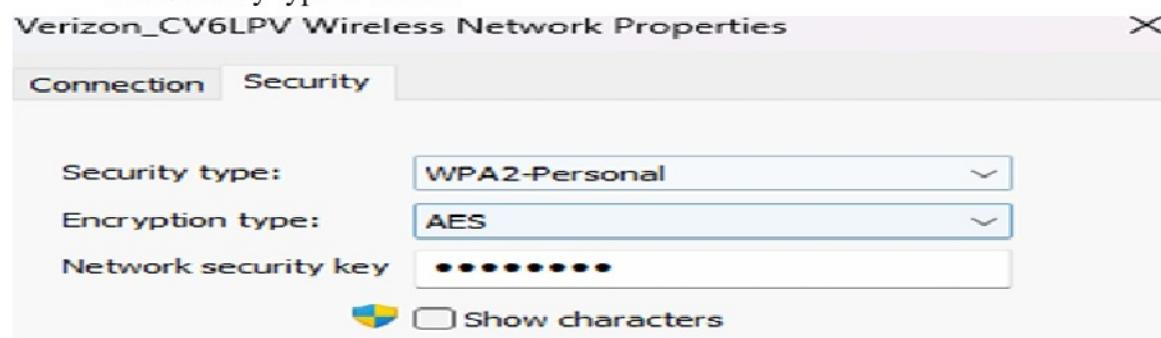
DNS server assignment: Automatic (DHCP)

SSID: [REDACTED]

- The signal strength is strong with a full tower.



- The Security type is WPA2.



<u>Network Name (SSID)</u>	<u>Signal Strength</u>	<u>Security Type</u>	<u>Special Characteristics</u>
2. QPL_Wi-Fi (Queens Library)	Medium	Open	Public Wifi

- The Network name (SSID) is QPL_Wi-Fi, and it is a public network.

Network & internet > Wi-Fi > QPL_Wi-Fi

Public network (Recommended)
Your device is not discoverable on the network. Use this in most cases—when connected to a network at home, work, or in a public place.

Private network
Your device is discoverable on the network. Select this if you need file sharing or use apps that communicate over this network. You should know and trust the people and devices on the network.

[Configure firewall and security settings](#)

Metered connection
Some apps might work differently to reduce data usage when you're connected to this network Off

[Set a data limit to help control data usage on this network](#)

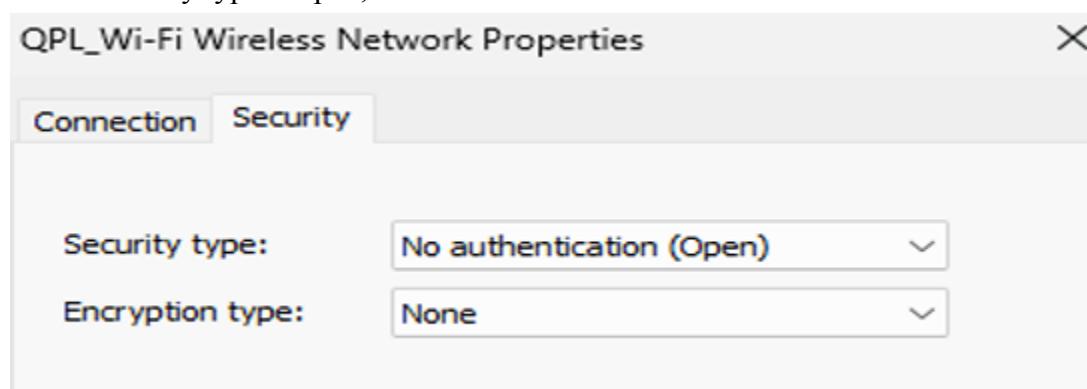
Random hardware addresses
Help protect your privacy by making it harder for people to track your device location when you connect to this network. The setting takes effect the next time you connect to this network. Off

IP assignment:	Automatic (DHCP)	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>
DNS server assignment:	Automatic (DHCP)	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>
SSID:	QPL_Wi-Fi	<input type="button" value="Copy"/>

- The Signal strength is strong with a full tower.



- The Security type is open, and it is not authenticated.



<u>Network Name (SSID)</u>	<u>Signal Strength</u>	<u>Security Type</u>	<u>Special Characteristics</u>
3. Starbucks WiFi (Cafe)	Medium	Open	Public Wifi

- The Network name (SSID) is Starbucks WiFi, and it is a public network.

Network & internet > Wi-Fi > Starbucks WiFi

Public network (Recommended)
 Your device is not discoverable on the network. Use this in most cases—when connected to a network at home, work, or in a public place.

Private network
 Your device is discoverable on the network. Select this if you need file sharing or use apps that communicate over this network. You should know and trust the people and devices on the network.

[Configure firewall and security settings](#)

Metered connection
 Some apps might work differently to reduce data usage when you're connected to this network Off

[Set a data limit to help control data usage on this network](#)

Random hardware addresses
 Help protect your privacy by making it harder for people to track your device location when you connect to this network. The setting takes effect the next time you connect to this network. Off

IP assignment:	Automatic (DHCP)	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>
DNS server assignment:	Automatic (DHCP)	<input type="button" value="Edit"/>
SSID:	Starbucks WiFi	<input type="button" value="Copy"/>

- The Signal strength is strong with a full tower.



- The Security type is open, and it is not authenticated.

Starbucks WiFi Wireless Network Properties

[Connection](#) [Security](#)

Security type:	<input button"="" type="button" value="▼"/>
Encryption type:	<input button"="" type="button" value="▼"/>

Part 2: Security Analysis for Home Network

- The network currently uses the WPA2 security protocol, which provides moderate protection but is less secure than WPA3.

This screenshot shows the 'Guest Network' configuration page in the Verizon router's web interface. The 'Advanced' tab is selected. The 'Band' is set to 2.4 GHz. The 'Wi-Fi Name' field contains a redacted value, and the 'Wi-Fi Password' field shows a masked password. A 'Security' section allows selecting the encryption type, with 'WPA2' highlighted. Other options include 'WPA2' and 'None'. A 'Wi-Fi Disabled' toggle switch is turned off. The 'Apply Changes' button is visible in the top right. The left sidebar shows navigation links for Home, Wi-Fi (selected), Primary Network, Guest Network, IoT Network, Wi-Fi Protected Setup, and Radio Management. The 'Devices' section is collapsed.

- WPS (Wi-Fi Protected Setup) is currently enabled, which may expose the network to brute-force attacks.

This screenshot shows the 'Wi-Fi Protected Setup' configuration page in the Verizon router's web interface. The 'Basic' tab is selected. The 'Network Devices' dropdown is set to 'Verizon Router'. The 'Wi-Fi' section is expanded, showing the 'Wi-Fi Protected Setup' link, which is highlighted with a red box. The main title is 'Wi-Fi Protected Setup'. Below it, a 'Enable Wi-Fi Protected Setup' button has a green checkmark indicating it is enabled. A note explains that WPS is an easy way to add Wi-Fi devices to your network, requiring support from the client device. The left sidebar shows Home, Wi-Fi (selected), Primary Network, and Devices sections.

- The default administrator password has not been changed, increasing the risk of unauthorized access.

This screenshot shows the 'System Settings' page of a Verizon Router's web interface. The left sidebar lists various settings categories like Network Devices, Diagnostics & Monitoring, and System. The main content area shows the 'Router Status' section with fields for Router's Hostname (redacted), Local Domain (mynetworksettings.com), and Location (Other). Below it is the 'User Settings' section, which includes fields for User name (Admin), Set new password, Retype new password, and Unsuccessful Login Attempts (set to 10). An 'Apply Changes' button is located in the top right corner.

- The network SSID is still using the default name, making it easily identifiable and less secure.

This screenshot shows the 'Primary Network' page of the Verizon Router's web interface. The left sidebar lists network-related settings like Home, Wi-Fi, Guest Network, and IoT Network. The main content area shows the 'Self-Organizing Network (SON)' section, which is currently enabled. It also displays fields for Wi-Fi Name (redacted) and Wi-Fi Password (redacted), along with a 'Wi-Fi Enabled' toggle switch that is turned on. An 'Apply Changes' button is located in the top right corner.

Part 3: Potential security issues

- The home router configuration contains several settings that may expose the network to risk.
- The network currently uses WPA2 encryption, which provides adequate protection but lacks the stronger security features of WPA3.
- WPS (Wi-Fi Protected Setup) is enabled, increasing the likelihood of brute-force or PIN-based attacks if exploited by an attacker.
- The default administrator password has not been changed, leaving the management interface vulnerable to unauthorized access.

Part 4: Improvement Plan

To strengthen my home network's security posture:

1. Change the default administrator password to a strong, unique passphrase stored securely in a password manager.
2. Disable WPS (Wi-Fi Protected Setup) to eliminate potential brute-force vulnerabilities. Although this will require manually entering the Wi-Fi password for new devices, it significantly reduces risk.
3. Upgrade to WPA3 encryption if supported by the router and connected devices, as it offers improved encryption and authentication mechanisms compared to WPA2.
4. Rename the SSID (Wi-Fi network name) to remove default identifiers and avoid revealing the router's make or model. Optionally, hide the SSID to reduce network visibility in public scans.

Implementing these steps will enhance the overall security of the wireless network and help prevent unauthorized access or compromise.