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## Create Another WiFi Network on a Mikrotik Router

2016-10-04

Steps to create a second (or third) network on a Mikrotik router, perhaps for a guest network.

## Background

I like to separate different WiFi on my network. So my friends use a guest network, the kids are on their own network, etc.

Many home routers have a "tick the box" style of guest WiFi network, you tick the "guest network" box and out pops a virtual guest access point.

Mikrotik routers can do exactly the same thing, except you can have effectively unlimited access points and you need to build the network piece by piece.

# Steps

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In this guide, I create a separate WiFi interface for phones and tablets.

Phones rarely need full network access to other local devices. And they have a nasty habit of getting lost, stolen or otherwise broken, so having a separate WiFi access point (and password) means you don't accidentally disclose your main WiFi password.

I'll be using WinBox, but I'll also list the console details via a print command.

## 1. Create an Interface

First thing to do is create yourself a passphrase for your AP. I generate one from [makemeapassword.org](http://makemeapassword.org) and save it in my KeePass database.

Then create a new *security profile*: Goto **Wireless -> Security Profiles** and add a new profile.

Give it an appropriate name ( *wpa2-phones* in my case). I disable *WPA* and only use *WPA2*, as I have no legacy devices and it improves security slightly. Finally, don't forget to enter your passphrase.

▶ June 2017 (2)

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▶ April 2017 (2)

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▶ .NET (14)

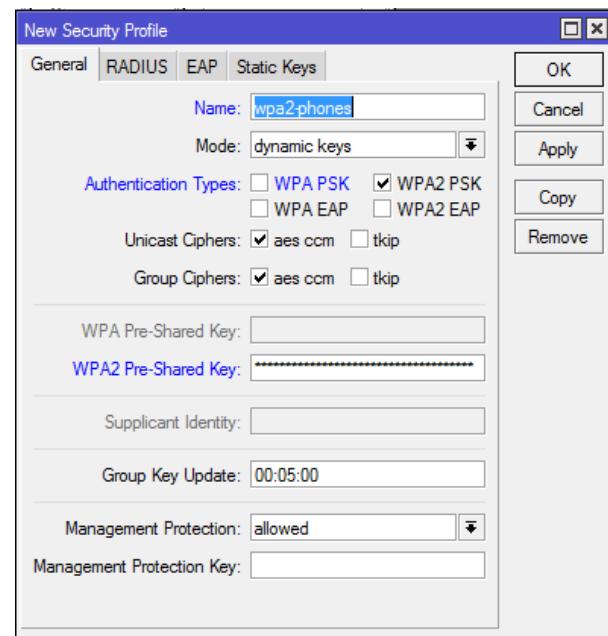
▶ .NET Core (2)

▶ .NET Standard (2)

▶ 4G (2)

▶ About (1)

▶ Access Point (1)



Wireless Security Profile

[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /interface

```
4 name="wpa2-phones" mode=dynar
group-ciphers=aes-ccm wpa-pre-
wpa2-pre-shared-key="NotMyRea
eap-methods="" tls-mode=no-ce
mschapv2-password="" static-;
static-algo-2=none static-key=
static-transmit-key=key-0 sta
radius-mac-authentication=no
interim-update=0s radius-mac-
radius-mac-caching=disabled {
management-protection-key=""}
```

Then create a virtual access point: Goto **Wireless -> Interfaces** and then add a *Virtual AP*.

On the *General* tab, enter a name for the network interface (which will be used internally on your Mikrotik). Mine is `wlan-phones`.

On the *Wireless* tab, enter an SSID to identify your network: `ligos-phones` for me, then select your newly created security profile

▶ Accountability Software (1)

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▶ Agreement (1)

---

▶ Android (1)

---

▶ Authoring (1)

---

▶ Autoruns (1)

---

▶ Azure (1)

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▶ Backup (3)

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▶ Bandwidth (1)

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▶ Boot-Failure (1)

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▶ Bricked (1)

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▶ Broken (1)

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▶ Bsod (1)

---

▶ Bug Check (1)

---

▶ C# (12)

---

▶ CPRNG (12)

---

▶ CPU (1)

---

▶ Camera (3)

---

▶ Cellphone (1)

---

## Wireless Virtual AP

Wireless Virtual AP

---

[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /interface

```
3      name="wlan-phones" mtu=1500
      interface-type=virtual-AP m;
      vlan-id=1 wds-mode=disabled
      default-authentication=yes
      default-client-tx-limit=0 h-
```

---

## 2. Assign an IP Pool and Address

A network interface isn't much use without an IP address.

Goto **IP -> Address** and then add a new address.

Choose an appropriate IP address for your new network (I'm using **10.46.2.xxx**) and assign it to your new interface.

## Add an IP Address

Add an IP Address

---

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ip address
Flags: X - disabled, I - invalid,
      # ADDRESS           NETWORK
      5 ;;; Phone WiFi
          10.46.2.1/24     10.46.2.0
```

---

On many other routers, you assign an IP address range against the DHCP server. On a Mikrotik you create an IP Pool, which is then used by DHCP (and other things too, I guess, though I have no idea what). So we need a pool before we can configure DHCP.

▶ Certificate (1)

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▶ Certify (1)

---

▶ Church (1)

---

▶ Cloud (2)

---

▶ Codeplex (1)

---

▶ Compatibility (1)

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▶ Conceptual (1)

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▶ Conditions (1)

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▶ Configuration (1)

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▶ Content (1)

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▶ Costings (1)

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▶ Covenant Eyes (1)

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▶ Crash (3)

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▶ Crashplan (2)

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▶ Crypto (12)

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▶ Cryptography (1)

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▶ Custom Domain (1)

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▶ Day Night Cycle (1)

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▶ DeleteFacebook (1)

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▶ Diagnose (1)

---

▶ Dice (12)

---

▶ Disassemble (1)

---

▶ Disaster-Recovery (1)

---

Goto **IP -> Pool** and then add a new pool.

I tend to reserve the bottom ~60 address (from `x.1` to `x.63`) for static allocations, and `x.255` is the broadcast address. Which means a range like `10.46.2.64` – `10.46.2.254` is my pool.

## The Dynamic Pool

The Dynamic Pool

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ip pool:
# NAME          R/
4 dhcp-phones   10
```

## 4. Create a DHCP Server

DHCP is used to assign addresses to devices as they connect to the WiFi network. They will use the pool we just created. And also assign a few other special addresses.

Goto **IP -> DHCP Server -> DHCP Tab** and add a new DHCP Server.

Give it a name (I named mine after the `wlan-phones` interface). Select the interface you created. Extend the lease time to something reasonably long (I use 1 day). And select the address pool you created in the last step.

## DHCP Server

DHCP Server

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ip dhcp-
Flags: X - disabled, I - invalid
#   NAME           INTERFACE
4   wlan-phones   wlan-phones
```

▶ Driver Verifier (1)

---

▶ Dropbox (2)

---

▶ Easter (3)

---

▶ Easter Friday (3)

---

▶ Email (1)

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▶ File History (2)

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▶ Firewall (2)

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▶ Fortuna (12)

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▶ Garden (1)

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▶ Gateway (3)

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▶ Godliness (1)

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▶ Good Friday (3)

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▶ Guest (2)

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▶ HDD (1)

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▶ HTTPS (1)

---

▶ Hard Disk (1)

---

▶ Hardware (3)

---

▶ Herbs (1)

---

▶ Hexo (4)

---

▶ Hexo-Bootstrap-Series (4)

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▶ Home Router (3)

---

▶ Home Security (3)

---

▶ Honour (1)

---

▶ Hosting (1)

---

Now, jump over to the *Networks* tab and add new configuration.

The **Address** field is what ties the *Address Pool*, *DHCP Server* and *Network Configuration* all together. It should be the same as the IP address you chose, but with a zero at the end, and the netmask afterwards.

`10.46.2.0/24` fits my example so far. The Netmask should be `255.255.255.0` or `24`, unless you know much more about subnets than I do.

I also set the router to be the DNS server and NTP server. And the domain to `ligos.local`.

## DHCP Config

### DHCP Config

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ip dhcp-
# ADDRESS           GATEWAY      [
0 ;;; Phone WiFi
          10.46.2.0/24    10.46.2.1  :
```

## 5. Assign an IPv6 Pool and Address

I also have a public IPv6 range assigned by my ISP, so I add an IPv6 address as well. You need to create an IPv6 pool first, based on your public address assignment, before you can advertise it on an interface or assign an address. Also, because there's much more auto discovery built into IPv6, config is much less complicated.

Goto **IPv6 -> Pool** and then add a new pool.

▶ How-To (4)

---

▶ Hyper-V (1)

---

▶ IIS (2)

---

▶ Idiot Poof (1)

---

▶ Installation (2)

---

▶ Internals (1)

---

▶ Internet (1)

---

▶ Intro (1)

---

▶ Isolated (3)

---

▶ Keepass (1)

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▶ Keybase (1)

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▶ LSI (1)

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▶ LTE (2)

---

▶ Laptop (1)

---

▶ Layered Service Provider (1)

---

▶ Legal (1)

---

▶ Lets Encrypt (1)

---

▶ Malware (1)

---

▶ Messaging (1)

---

▶ Meta (1)

---

▶ Metadata (1)

---

▶ Microsoft Account (1)

---

▶ Migration (1)

---

▶ Mikrotik (13)

---

I'm simply assigning /64 subnets (from my /56 public allocation) to each network. This gives me 255 subnets for 255 networks (which is plenty, given I don't even have 255 devices!) There's no static assignments, so no address range exclusions like for IPv4.

### The IPv6 Pool

The IPv6 Pool

---

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ipv6 pool
Flags: D - dynamic
#   NAME
3   phones-ipv6-pool
```

Now, goto **IPv6 -> Address**. You'll note that link local addresses (starting with `fe80`) have been dynamically created for your new interface. This is totally normal.

Now, add a new address. I use the same address for the router as for the pool. And set the correct pool and interface.

### The IPv6 Address

The IPv6 Address

---

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ipv6 address
Flags: X - disabled, I - invalid,
#   ADDRESS
8 DL fe80::4c5e:cff:feb8:d8d1/64
9 G 2001:44b8:3168:9b03::/64
```

## 6. Add Firewall Rules

Before everything will work, you'll need a few firewall rules.

▶ Mobile Internet (2)

---

▶ Mobile Phone (1)

---

▶ Model N15W1 (1)

---

▶ Modem (1)

---

▶ Motherboard (1)

---

▶ MotionEye (2)

---

▶ NTP (1)

---

▶ Netboot (1)

---

▶ Netflow (1)

---

▶ Netinstall (1)

---

▶ Network (4)

---

▶ Networking (3)

---

▶ New User (1)

---

▶ Nfdump (1)

---

▶ Nmap (1)

---

▶ NuGet (1)

---

▶ Nuke it from Orbit (1)

---

▶ Outage (1)

---

▶ PGP (1)

---

▶ Password (1)

---

▶ Philippians (1)

---

▶ Planting (1)

---

▶ Pool (1)

---

▶ Porting (1)

---

I've created a defacto routing policy based on *Address Lists*. By adding the new network masks to existing *Address Lists*, everything just works without any further changes to firewall rules. Though I'll list the firewall rules as well, for your reference.

There are 4 categories I have at the moment:

1. **all\_internal** - a list of all my internal networks. I need to add my new `10.46.2.0/24` network here.
2. **internal\_trusted** - networks which may access LAN resources. As my new phones network doesn't need blanket local access, I don't add it.
3. **internal\_restricted** - networks which cannot access LAN resources (unless I add explicit rules). I add `10.46.2.0/24` here.
4. **named\_bla** - specific named devices. Because you can't use DNS names in firewall rules.

Note the `10.46.1.0/26` network in **internal\_trusted**. Although `10.46.1.0/24` is restricted by default, I trust a small part of that network (this lets my kids' devices access printers and SMB shares).

---

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ip firewall
Flags: X - disabled, D - dynamic
#  LIST          AI
30  all_internal  19
31  all_internal  10
32  all_internal  10
12  internal_trusted  19
14  internal_trusted  10
19  internal_restricted  10
20  internal_restricted  10
23  named_loki      10
24  named_printer    pi
```

---

▶ Presentation (2)

---

▶ Printer (1)

---

▶ Privacy (1)

---

▶ Property (1)

---

▶ Public Speaking (7)

---

▶ Python (1)

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▶ RNG (12)

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▶ Random (12)

---

▶ Raspberry Pi (3)

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▶ ReadablePassphrase (1)

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▶ ReadablePassphraseGenerator (1)

---

▶ Remove (1)

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▶ Repair (1)

---

▶ Restore (2)

---

▶ Reverse Proxy (1)

---

▶ Router (5)

---

▶ S/MIME (1)

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▶ SMB (1)

---

▶ SMIME (1)

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▶ SSD (1)

---

▶ Safe Mode (1)

---

▶ Scheduler (1)

---

▶ Script (1)

---

▶ Secure (1)

---

The most important firewall rule is the NAT rule, which translates public IP addresses to private ones. Without this, no Internet connectivity is possible.

---

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ip fire
Flags: X - disabled, I - invalid,
```

```
10      ;;; Main NAT rule
chain=srcnat action=masquerade
log-prefix=""
```

---

The **filters** tab are where the firewall rules actually live. They enforce whatever policies I have, that is, what may access what. There are three categories of rules I have:

- Stats rules - these are just to track GBs and number of packets.
- Allow rules - to allow particular connections.
- Deny rules - the Mikrotik firewall allows everything by default, so you need some rules to reverse that behaviour.

Note that most rules are applied to the `forward` chain. This is the one used when forwarding packets between networks (as opposed to packets within the same networks).

---

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ip fire
Flags: X - disabled, I - invalid,
1      ;;; Incoming Stats
chain=forward action=pass
3      chain=forward action=pass
6      chain=forward action=pass
8      ;;; Outgoing Stats
chain=forward action=pass
9      chain=forward action=pass
12     chain=forward action=pass
```

▶ Security (3)

---

▶ Seedlings (1)

---

▶ Self-Hosting (1)

---

▶ Sermon (6)

---

▶ Shame (1)

---

▶ Slack (1)

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▶ Speech (2)

---

▶ Spin 5 SP513 (1)

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▶ Spring (1)

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▶ Step-By-Step (3)

---

▶ Storage Spaces (2)

---

▶ Submission (1)

---

▶ Surveillance (3)

---

▶ Swedish Method (1)

---

▶ Switch (1)

---

▶ Sysinternals (2)

---

▶ Syslog (1)

---

▶ System-Image (1)

---

▶ Tear Down (1)

---

▶ Terms (1)

---

▶ Terninger-Series (12)

---

▶ Threading (3)

---

▶ Titus (1)

---

▶ Troubleshooting (2)

---

29 ;;; Allow restricted network  
chain=forward action=accept  
dst-port=80,443 log=no log-  
i

30 ;;; Allow DNS access for all  
chain=input action=accept pi

31 ;;; Allow NTP access for all  
chain=input action=accept pi

32 ;;; Allow SMB / CIFS access  
chain=forward action=accept  
dst-port=445 log=no log-pre

33 ;;; Allow restricted network  
chain=forward action=accept  
dst-port=80,443,22 log=no lo

34 ;;; Allow printer access from  
chain=forward action=accept  
log-prefix=""

43 ;;; Full access to INTERNAL  
chain=input action=accept si

44 ;;; Drop access to LAN from  
chain=forward action=reject  
dst-address-list=internal\_t

49 ;;; Drop external access by  
chain=input action=drop pro

50 ;;; drop external access by  
chain=input action=drop pro

IPv6 firewall is considerably simpler: just the accounting rules. Although that's probably more due to my laziness than best practise.

```
[admin@Mikrotik-gateway] /ipv6 fi
Flags: X - disabled, I - invalid,
1 ;;; Incoming Stats
chain=forward action=pass thi
3 chain=forward action=pass thi
```

▶ Ts&Cs (1)

---

▶ UEFI (1)

---

▶ Uninstall (1)

---

▶ Upgrade (1)

---

▶ User (1)

---

▶ User Interface (2)

---

▶ VLAN (1)

---

▶ Vegies (1)

---

▶ Video (3)

---

▶ WIndows Upgrade (1)

---

▶ Wbadmin (1)

---

▶ WiFi (4)

---

▶ Windbg (1)

---

▶ Windows (3)

---

▶ Windows 10 (3)

---

▶ Windows Activation (1)

---

▶ Windows-10 (1)

---

▶ Winsock (1)

---

▶ X.509 (1)

---

▶ Yubikey (1)

---

▶ anti-virus (1)

---

▶ eM Client (1)

---

▶ malware (1)

---

▶ remove (1)

---

```
6      chain=forward action=passthru
8      ;;; Outgoing Stats
9      chain=forward action=passthru
12     chain=forward action=passthru
```

---

## 7. Testing

Once configured, you should be able to ping the new IP addresses you just created.

And the final test is to connect a phone to the new WiFi network. Make sure it gets an IP address (if not, the WiFi interface itself or the DHCP server is mis-configured). And try to access the Internet (if you can't, the NAT rule or another firewall rule is probably broken).

It's also useful to keep an eye on the **Log**, as errors may appear in there to help you track down problems. And look against firewall rules to see when packet counts increase, that is a hint where things might be getting blocked.



Phones Connected to the Phone WiFi!

Phones Connected to the Phone WiFi!

## Conclusion

You can create many new WiFi networks on a Mikrotik router to segregate and restrict devices.

The process is more involved than on most home routers, but considerably more flexible.

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