

## Re: [SLE] WRT54G wireless woes

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*Source:* <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/SuSE/2005-12/msg01957.html>

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- *From:* Corvin Russell <corvin\_russell@xxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Tue, 20 Dec 2005 13:43:12 -0800 (PST)
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I also had read that there were a number of issues with the v 5.0 WRT54G, so I located a store that still had some v 4.0 models and picked up a couple. (The serial numbers beginning CDF0,CDF1,...,CDF9,CDF9A are v 4.0 and earlier; CDFB+ is v 5.0 or later.) I wanted to get one as a solution to the ongoing USB wireless woes at the office -- the USB wireless adapter issued at the office (no wired connections here) causes my kernel to crash frequently, with the latest version of ndiswrapper and wpa\_supplicant installed (the SuSE rpms are no better). So I got the WRT54G, flashed the firmware with DD-WRT, set it to client mode and attached two computers by ethernet. So for a few dollars more than a single compatible network card, and a little more than half the cost of out-of-the-box wireless to ethernet bridge solutions (which have lower grade security), I've connected two computers and have the potential to do a lot more interesting stuff with the firmware. And no more kernel crashes. So I am pretty pleased.

One warning -- if you intend to flash the firmware, please read up on the proper way to do this. The wiki at the DD-WRT site has very good instructions on this, also on how to unbrick your router should you need to. Please note that v 4.0 and WRT54GL (the reissued WRT54G v 4.0) out of the box need to be flashed with DD-WRT v. 23beta \*mini\* before you can flash with the standard firmware.

Corvin

--- "L. Mark Stone" <lmstone@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

> On Sat, 2005-12-17 at 17:54 -0500, Gil Weber wrote:  
>> On Sat December 17 2005 5:42 pm,  
> lerninlinux@xxxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:  
>>  
>>

Re: [SLE] WRT54G wireless woes

>>>> Just got a Linksys WRT54G and putting it  
> through its paces. PPPoE and  
>>>> switch components work great, but I'm having  
> trouble with wireless. I  
>>>> had been using a 3Com access point, which my  
> ThinkPad and Zaurus could  
>>>> both see without issues, but neither can see  
> the WRT54G. On the  
>>>> ThinkPad, the output of iwconfig shows zeros  
> for the WRT54G's MAC  
>>>> address (i.e. it didn't associate), although  
> kinternet's "wireless  
>>>> connection" dialog and "iwlist scan" show it  
> by ESSID with the correct  
>>>> MAC address. Neither the ThinkPad nor the  
> Zaurus have the access  
>>>> point's MAC address specified. (I normally  
> use 64-bit WEP, but also  
>>>> tried with no encryption.)  
>>>>  
>>>>> What might I have done wrong? I've spent  
> hours twiddling bits on the  
>>>>> WRT54G. It's a version 5, and I upgraded to  
> the latest firmware (for  
>>>>> that version, it's 1.00.4). The ThinkPad is  
> running SUSE 10.0 and using  
>>>>> ipw2100 driver.  
>>>>>  
>>  
>>  
>> We just got the same unit, also version 5. Have  
> not yet tried to set it up. A  
>> couple of questions for you if you don't mind:  
>>  
>> 1) How did you install the latest firmware using  
> SuSE Linux? For the past  
>> several Linksys routers we've had there has only  
> been firmware for Windows.  
>> How did you load it if it's only available for  
> Windows? (Or is there now  
>> firmware for Linux?)  
>>  
>> 2) I see that there is a sticker over the ports  
> that says to run the  
>> installation CD before connecting the router.  
> Again, it's a Windows CD, so  
>> what did you do? Ignore the sticker and CD?  
>>  
>> 3) If you determine that V5 does have Linux  
> compatibility issues please post  
>> that to the list. Maybe we can return this one?

Re: [SLE] WRT54G wireless woes

>>  
>> Thanks!  
>> Gil  
>>  
>  
> I picked a version 5 also. It's terrible, even after  
> updating the  
> firmware. Very unstable; it would lose wireless  
> connections several  
> times a day.  
>  
> I bit the bullet and bought a SonicWall TZ150W and  
> haven't had a hitch  
> since I finished installing it.  
>  
> Googling shows many, many unhappy Version 5  
> customers, and not because  
> they can't flash the firmware with their own OS. The  
> v5 units simply  
> crash a lot.  
>  
> YMMV,  
> Mark  
>  
>  
> --  
>  
>  
>

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>  
> A Message From... L. Mark Stone  
>  
> Reliable Networks of Maine, LLC  
>  
> "We manage your network so you can manage your  
> business"  
>  
> 477 Congress Street  
> Portland, ME 04101  
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> Web: <http://www.rnome.com>  
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> It may contain information that is privileged and  
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> If you suspect that you were not intended to receive  
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> delete it and notify us as soon as possible. Thank  
> you.  
>

Re: [SLE] WRT54G wireless woes

>  
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> For additional commands send e-mail to  
> suse-linux-e-help@xxxxxxxx  
> Also check the archives at <http://lists.suse.com>  
> Please read the FAQs: suse-linux-e-faq@xxxxxxxx  
>  
>  
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Please read the FAQs: suse-linux-e-faq@xxxxxxxx

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• **References:**

- ◆ **[Re: \[SLE\] WRT54G wireless woes](#)**  
    ◇ From: L. Mark Stone

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