

Configuring Your Macintosh for a Wireless Ethernet Connection: *Macintosh OS X*

*Tip: If you plan on using your Mac laptop with different types of networking from different locations (e.g. a wired connection in your residence hall room and wireless out on the steps), you will probably want to learn to set up and use the Mac's **Location Manager**. Start by choosing **Mac Help** from the Finder's Help menu and search for **location manager**, and read about **adding a network location**.*

Tip: If you run an application in Classic Mode and need to use the network, you will need to configure Classic networking. Please refer to the connection guides for OS 8.1 through 9.x for instructions.

System Requirements

To use wireless networking at Teachers College, you will need a PowerBook G3, a Titanium PowerBook G4, or an iBook with an Apple Airport card.

Setting Up a Wireless Ethernet Connection

Step 1. Install the Airport Card

Install your Airport card and software according to Apple's directions.

If the Airport Setup Assistant window appears, you can simply close it by clicking in the close box in the upper left corner of the window. **You do not need to use the Airport Setup Assistant.**

IMPORTANT: Do NOT set up your Macintosh to be an Airport Software Base Station!

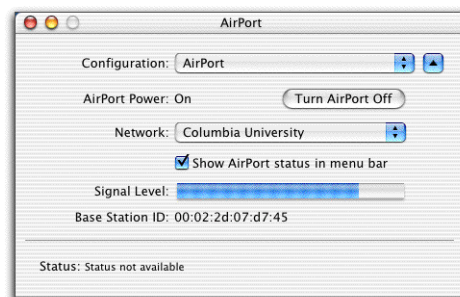
Step 2. Use Your Wireless Connection

1. Go to a location on campus where wireless networking is available. The list of access points and coverage areas is at:

<http://www.tc.columbia.edu/cis/connect/wireless/coveragemap.htm>

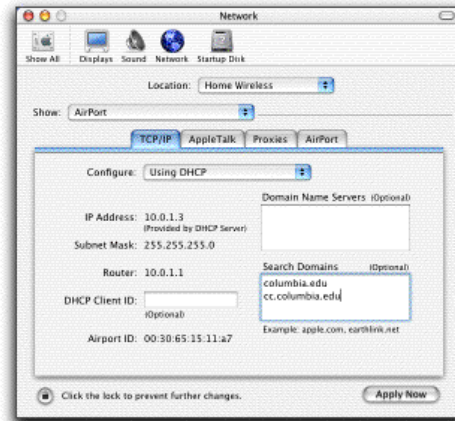
2. Start up your computer and open Applications → **Internet Connect**. Select **Airport** from the **Configuration** drop-down menu. (If necessary, turn your Airport card on by selecting **Turn Airport On**.) Then choose **PubWiFi** or **Teachers College** from the **Network** drop-down menu.

The length of the colored area in the **Signal Level** bar indicates the strength of your wireless connection. If you have low signal strength, you may want to move to another



location to get better performance

3. Choose **System Preferences** from the Apple menu or click the **System Preferences** icon in the dock. Click the **Network** icon to display its options.
 - Set the **Configure** drop-down menu to **Using DHCP**.
 - Enter **tc.edu** and **int.tc.columbia.edu** in the **Search Domains** field.
 - Click **Apply Now** and then select **Quit** from the **System Preferences** menu.
 - Save the changes to your configuration when prompted.



Now you can run a network software program such as Netscape Navigator. You should be able to connect to the Internet and browse the Web just as you would with a wired connection.

Troubleshooting Wireless Connections

If you have trouble getting a wireless network connection, you should check the following:

- **Signal strength.** If **Internet Connect** indicates that you have no connection or the signal strength is low, make sure that you're in a location where wireless networking is available. Check the location map and move if necessary.
- **Is your Airport card turned on?** See step 3 above.
- If your Airport is already turned on, check that the **TCP/IP Network System Preferences** are properly configured. See step 4 above.
- **Reboot your computer.** If all else fails, reboot your computer.
- **Password prompt.** If you are prompted for an ID and/or password when you try to connect to the wireless network, it means that you are connecting to a non-TC access point. You should report this to helpdesk@tc.columbia.edu and move to a location served by a TC access point to try again.

For More Help

- Faculty and Staff:
 - Call the CIS Helpdesk at 212-678-3300, Monday through Friday, 8am-6pm
 - Send electronic mail to helpdesk@tc.columbia.edu
- Students:
 - Call Academic Computing at 212-678-3302, Monday through Friday, 9am-5pm
 - Send electronic mail to studentcomputing@tc.columbia.edu

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