

5GHz Wireless LAN Access Point PCWA-A500 Quick Start Guide

This guide provides an overview of the functions of the 5GHz Wireless LAN Access Point PCWA-A500 and the necessary preparations before use. Please read first.



PCWA-A500

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This guide for the 5GHz Wireless LAN Access Point PCWA-A500 is intended to be read together with the manuals provided with the 5GHz Wireless LAN PC Card PCWA-C500 (sold separately).

Unpacking

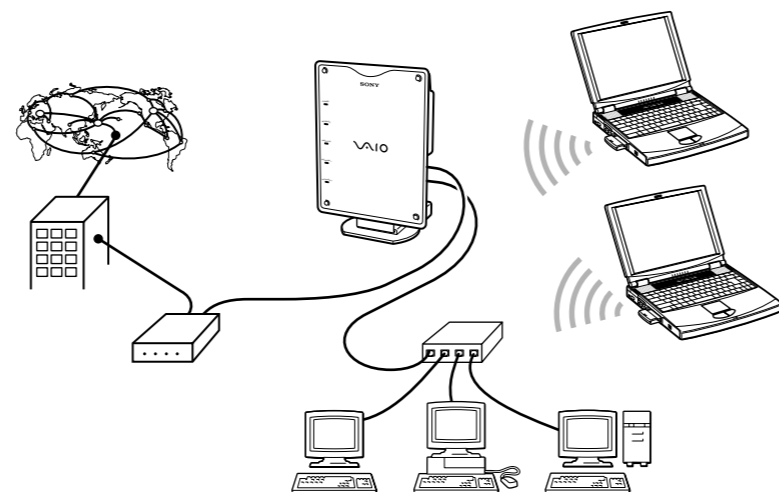
While unpacking the product, confirm that the following items are present.

- Access Point
- AC Adapter
- Ethernet Cable (straight-through wiring)
- Power Cord
- Operating Instructions
- Quick Start Guide (this sheet)
- Warranty Card
- Other Printed Matter

Applications

Accessing the Internet from a variety of household locations

By using a computer with a Wireless LAN PC Card, you can communicate with the Access Point, and share files with other computers via the Access Point. Furthermore, if you connect the Access Point to a DSL modem, cable modem or ISDN router, you can access the Internet from a variety of household locations.



Hint

This guide describes installation procedures for connecting the Access Point to a DSL modem, cable modem or ISDN router. Please refer to the Operating Instructions for the Ethernet connection procedure.

Installation and setup procedure

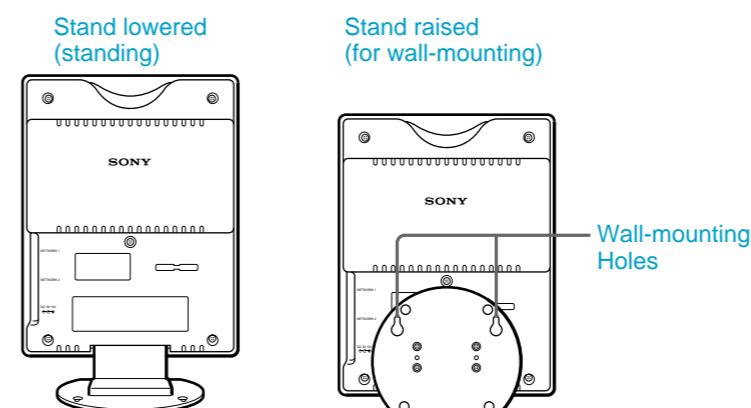
- Step 1** Set up the Access Point and connect power.
- Step 2 (Described in Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide)** Insert the Wireless LAN PC Card into the computer, and install the Wireless LAN PC Card driver. This process is described in the Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide that comes with your Wireless LAN PC Card.
- Step 3 (Described in Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide)** Install the Wireless Panel software supplied with the Wireless LAN PC Card.
- Step 4 (Described in Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide)** Configure the appropriate computer communications settings.
 - Hint** Select Access Point Connection Mode.
- Step 5** Configure the appropriate communications and Internet connection settings for the Access Point.
- Step 6 (Described in Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide)** Configure the computer communications settings to match the settings made in Step 5.
- Step 7** Connect the Access Point to the DSL modem, cable modem or ISDN router.

Step 1

Set up the Access Point and connect power

Locating

The Access Point stand is hinged, so it can be lowered or raised. It serves as a normal stand when lowered or as a wall-mount adapter when raised.



Using in the normal standing position

The stand supports the Access Point on a horizontal surface.

For optimum performance, use the stand to keep the front face of the Access Point vertical during operation.

Installation Notes

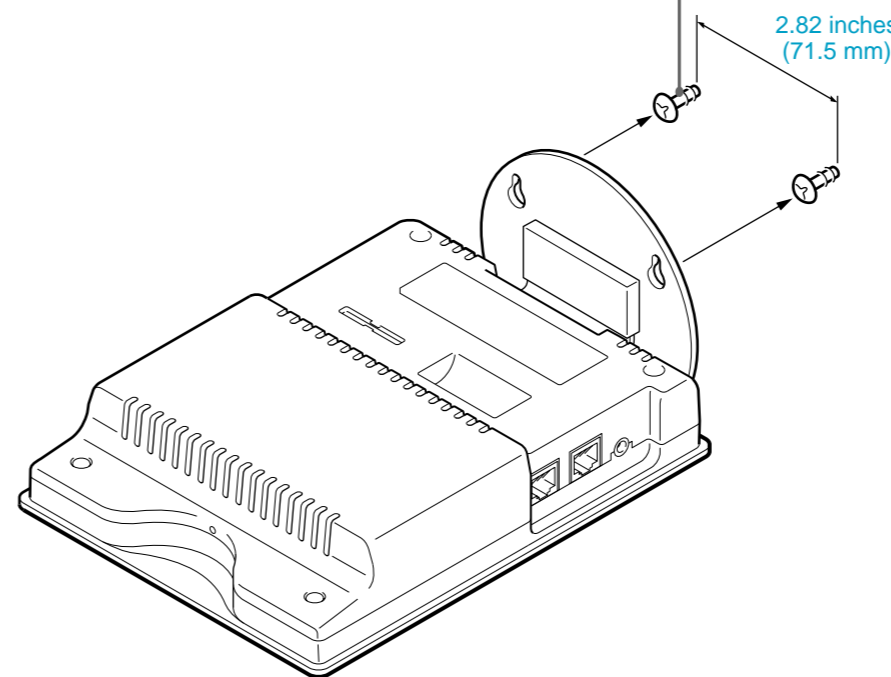
- Install the Access Point on a stable surface.
- Do not install it on a shelf or other place where jarring or vibration might cause it to fall.
- Do not install the Access Point in any location where passers-by might accidentally come in contact with the Access Point or its cabling.

Using the stand as a wall-mount adapter

When mounting the Access Point on a wall, the size and spacing of mounting holes is as follows. Note that no brackets are provided for mounting the Access Point on a wall. Use screws or nails that meet the following requirements.

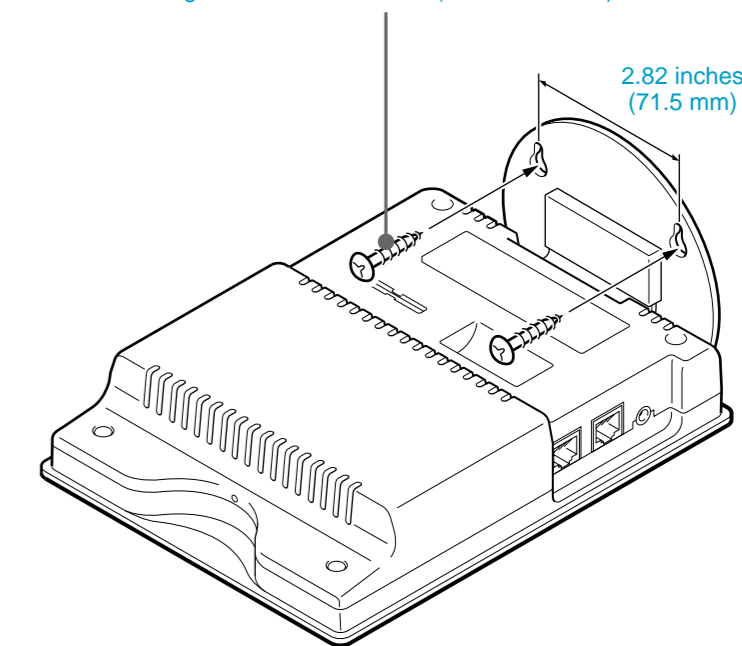
Hanging the Access Point from screws set in a wall:

- Head diameter: 0.24 to 0.29 inches (6.0 to 7.5 mm)
- Body diameter: 0.14 to 0.15 inches (3.5 to 4.0 mm)
- Length: 1.2 inches or more (30 mm or more)



Fastening the Access Point to a wall with screws:

- Body diameter: 0.14 to 0.29 inches (3.5 to 7.5 mm)
- Length: 1.2 inches or more (30 mm or more)

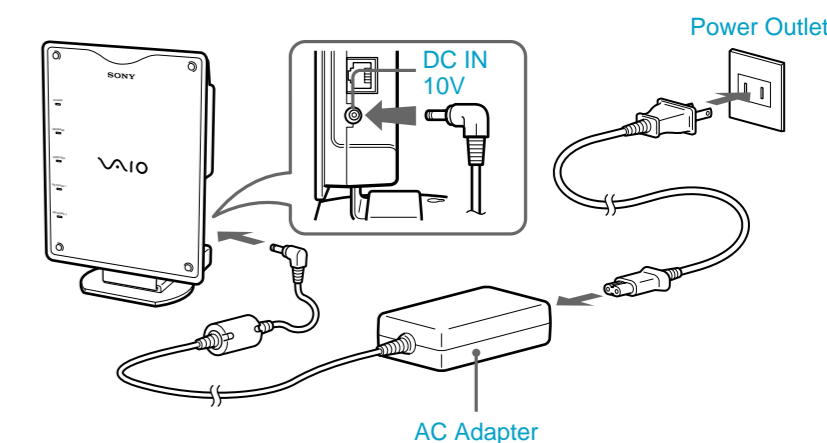


Notes

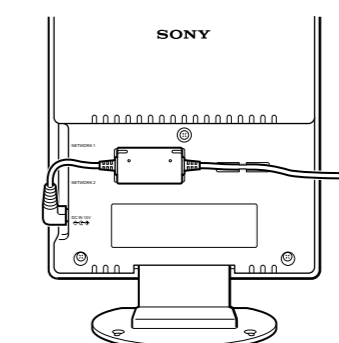
- Using two screws or other fasteners, ensure that the Access Point is securely set on the wall. When fastening the Access Point to a wall with screws, retighten them after mounting the Access Point.
- Select a location that will hold the weight of the Access Point when mounting it on the wall. If the location cannot hold the weight of the Access Point, the Access Point may drop and cause an accident.
- When mounting the Access Point on walls made of plasterboard or other fragile material, make sure that the material is strong enough to support the unit's weight and use special screw fasteners or other fixtures that are made for use with that material. If the unit is fastened with ordinary screws, there is a danger that it may fall.
- When mounting the Access Point on the wall, be careful not to drop the Access Point or the tools used for doing the work. Dropping the unit or tools could result in unforeseeable accidents.

Connecting power

- 1 Connect power to the Access Point as shown below. The following illustrations show the normal standing position.



- 2 Fit the ferrite core (thick cylindrical part) of the AC Adapter cable into the recess on the back of the Access Point, and insert the cable in the cable securing groove.



Hint

There is no power switch on the Access Point.

Step 2

Insert the Wireless LAN PC Card into the computer, and install the Wireless LAN PC Card driver

Refer to the Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide for details.

Step 3

Install the Wireless Panel software supplied with the Wireless LAN PC Card

Refer to the Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide for details.

Step 4

Configure the appropriate computer communications settings

Refer to the Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide for details.

Step 5

Configure the appropriate communications and Internet connection settings for the Access Point.

Settings are configured using a computer with a Wireless LAN PC Card connected without wires the Access Point, or using a computer connected via Ethernet to the NETWORK 2 connector on the Access Point.

Before setting up the Access Point

Perform the following procedures as needed.

When connecting the Access Point to the Internet

Confirm the following items first.

- If connecting through a DSL modem**

From the information provided by your ISP (Internet Service Provider) and your DSL modem operating manual, determine whether the connection to your ISP is a PPPoE connection or if your DSL modem supports a router type connection. Then confirm the following according to the connection type determined.

For PPPoE connection:
Determine the following items from the information provided by your ISP:

 - (1) Your account ID (called "User Account" or "User ID")
 - (2) The password corresponding to your account ID.
 - (3) Service name (if specifically provided)
 - (4) Access Concentrator name (if specifically provided)

For router type DSL modem connection:
No particular information needs to be determined beforehand.
- If connecting through a cable modem**

From the information provided by your ISP and your cable modem operating manual, determine whether the connection to your ISP is a DHCP connection (computer IP address assigned automatically) or a connection by a fixed IP address (computer IP address entered manually). Then confirm the following according to connection type.

For a DHCP connection (computer IP address assigned automatically):
Determine the "DHCP Client ID" from the information provided by your ISP (if specifically provided).

For a fixed IP address (computer IP address entered manually):
Determine the IP address to be assigned to your computer from the information provided by your ISP.
- If using an ISDN router**

No particular information needs to be determined beforehand.

Note

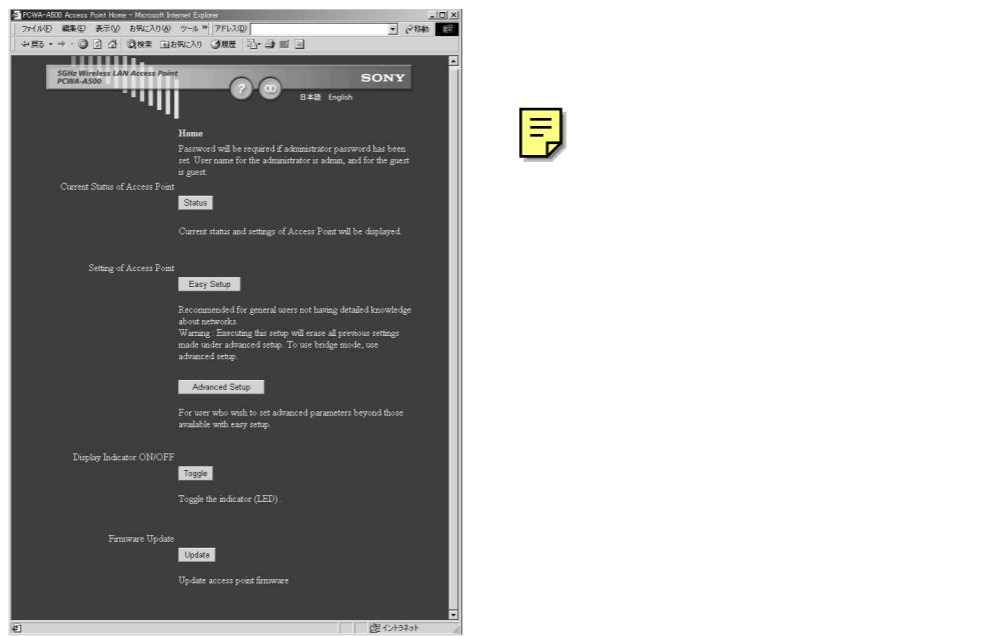
In some cases, your ISP may not permit connecting the Access Point to a DSL or cable modem as a router. Please obey the terms of your contract with your ISP.

Display the Access Point setup page

Access Point settings are performed on the Access Point setup page. This Setup page can be displayed in three methods.

Hint

The Setup page and Access Point settings are stored in memory within the Access Point, so it can be displayed without being connected to the Internet.



Notes

- If your web browser is configured to use a web proxy server, set the browser proxy settings so the browser does not use a proxy server for the Access Point IP address. (The factory default setting for the Access Point IP address is "192.168.11.1".)
- The displayed screen may differ from the above, depending on the firmware version of the Access Point.
- Your web browser version should be Internet Explorer 5 or later, or Netscape Communicator 4.75 or later.

Display through a Wireless LAN PC Card using the Wireless Network Easy Setup Wizard

Note

This method can only be used with Windows Millennium Edition, Windows XP Home Edition, or Windows XP Professional.

- 1 Start the Wireless Connection Easy Setup Wizard.

Hint

To Start the Wireless Connection Easy Setup Wizard, install the Wireless Panel and follow the onscreen instructions. However, you can start the Wireless Network Easy Setup Wizard any time you like. For details, refer to the Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide.

- 2 Follow the Wizard to configure the computer communications settings.

When finished configuring the computer communications settings, continue following the on-screen instructions to display the Access Point setup page.

Display from Wireless Panel

- 1 Run Wireless Panel, and double click the Wireless Panel icon (Received Signal Strength indicator) in the taskbar. The Wireless Panel main screen appears.

Hint

Refer to the Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide for details.

- 2 Click the AP Setting button.

The web browser starts with the Access Point setup page displayed.

Display by entering the IP address

- 1 Start up your web browser.

- 2 Type "http://192.168.11.1/" in the URL entry field, then press Enter. The Access Point setup page appears.

Hint

The IP address above is the factory default setting for the Access Point. Contact your network administrator if it has been changed.

When the setup page appears, follow the screens to configure the appropriate settings. Please refer to the Operating Instructions (separate booklet) or the online Help if you need further clarification.

Access Point settings can be made in the following two ways:

- Easy Setup**

This method is recommended for those who are unfamiliar with computer networks. However, if the Access Point is connected to a router type DSL modem or to an ISDN router, the Advanced Setup procedure must be used.

 - The Access Point operates as a NAT router
 - Easy Setup can generally be used to make all required settings when the ISP provides a PPPoE connection over DSL modem or when a cable modem is used.

Note

If Easy Setup is performed after finishing Advanced Setup, the settings made with Advanced Setup are lost, and settings are changed to those made with Easy Setup.

- Advanced Setup**

This method is used to perform detailed settings for the Access Point. Also, Access Point operation can be selected from the following two modes.

 - (1) NAT Router Mode
As with Easy Setup, the Access Point operates as a NAT router, but with more detailed settings available.
 - (2) Bridge Mode
In this mode, the Access Point operates as a network bridge. Select this mode when a router type DSL modem is used.

When connecting to the Internet

When using a DSL modem with PPPoE connection or a cable modem, either Easy Setup or Advanced Setup can be used. The Easy Setup is described here. When using a router type DSL modem, the Advanced Setup must be used.

Setting up PPPoE connection with a DSL modem

Select "Set address by PPPoE" and enter the settings determined previously.

Setting up connection with a cable modem

- 1 Depending on the connection method (IP address setting method) of the ISP, select "IP address is set up automatically" or "IP address is set up manually", and enter the settings determined previously.

- 2 If you selected "IP address is set up manually", enter the IP address determined previously.

Setting up connection with a router type DSL modem or an ISDN router

Select Bridge Mode under Advanced Setup.

Step 6

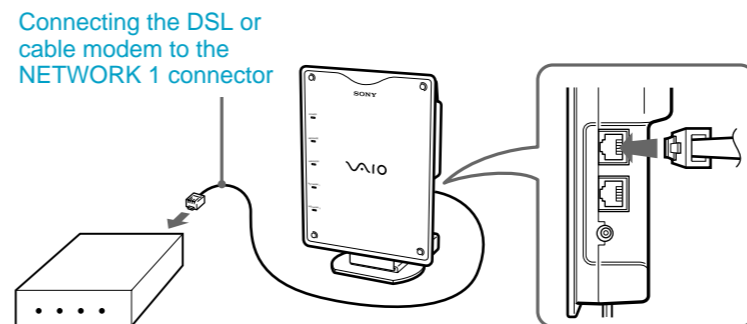
Configure the computer communications settings to match the settings made in Step 5

Refer to the Wireless LAN PC Card Quick Start Guide for details.

Step 7

Connect the Access Point to the DSL modem, cable modem, or ISDN router

Connect the DSL modem or cable modem to the Access Point NETWORK 1 connector using Ethernet cable as shown below.



Notes

- Use Category 5 Ethernet cable for connections
- In most cases, Ethernet cable with straight-through wiring is used, but for some communications devices, crossover wiring may be needed. In any case, use the same type of cable as would be used when connecting a computer to the communications device (the supplied Ethernet cable has straight-through wiring).

Basic setup for wireless communications is finished.

Getting help

This section describes how to get help and support from Sony.

About Sony's Support Options

Sony provides several support options for your Wireless LAN Access Point. When you have questions about your Wireless LAN Access Point, check these options for answers:

- This guide** explains how to install the Wireless LAN Access Point.
- Operating Instructions** explains how to use your Wireless LAN Access Point.
- Access Point Online Help** explains how configure your Wireless LAN Access Point.
- The Sony Wireless LAN PC Card support Web site** <http://www.sony.com/wirelesslansupport/> provides the latest information on your Wireless LAN PC Card.
- The Sony e-mail support service** answers your questions by electronic mail. Just send your question in an e-mail message and a customer service representative will reply. To send a question to Sony e-mail support, fill out the e-mail form at <http://www.sony.com/wirelesslansupport/>
- The Sony fax-back service** provides you with answers to commonly asked questions. You can use this automated service to request a list of available topics and then select the topics you want to receive. To contact the Sony fax-back service, call **1-877-760-7669**.
- The Sony Customer Information Services Center** offers information about your Access Point, Wireless LAN PC Card, and other Sony products that work with your computer. To contact the Sony Customer Information Services Center, call **1-877-760-7669**. **Open 24 hours/day, 7 days/week**.