

# Refined Router

This affordable N-router makes you want to say goodbye to G



WIRELESS ROUTER

## D-Link DIR-615

Price	RM 299
Contact	D-Link International Pte. Ltd.
Phone	(03) 6201 2881
Info	www.dlink-intl.com

### Specifications

**Standards:** 802.11n, 802.11b, 802.11g  
**Wireless Signal Rates:** Up to 300Mbps  
**Security:** WPA, TKIP, AES, WEP, MAC Address Filtering, Wi-Fi Protected Acces (WPA/WPA2 Personal)  
**Dimension:** 193 x 116.8 x 30.5 mm  
**Weight:** 940g

### RATINGS

Performance	
Features	
Design	
Value	

- Simple and nice design  
Good wireless reach  
Fast transfer rates
- Confusing icons  
No USB printer port

802.11n or more popularly known as wireless-N will be the de facto wireless standard in the future. Although it is still in draft development, you could get these routers anywhere in the market these days. What I have here is the D-Link DIR-615 Wireless N Router that is capable of a claimed transfer speed of

300Mbps.

The router is built solidly in rough textured plastic with brushed silver in front and at the sides. This router is one of the non-geekier models I've seen in recent times, especially compared to some which has 3 antennas and a signal pad, looking more like a war tank. This instead, is nice and simple. The icon that is represented in front of the router is a bit misleading. If it's not because of the manual, I would have the time of my life guessing what the icons mean. There are two standard antennas, one on each side. Like the other routers in the market, the DIR-615 comes with four built-in LAN ports and an Internet port. One thing missing from this router is a USB printer port.

Setting up the router was very easy. Plug the router to a power point and one of the LAN ports to a computer, set up the user name and password of your broadband account and you are ready to go.

With 300Mbps of bandwidth, there is only one thing that comes to mind - video streaming. I tried streaming a video with the router in my room and my laptop in

the living room in my condo and there were no hiccups during the video. Wireless range which reaches up to about about 20 meters performed well; although transfer speeds did dwindle the further the distance became. Transfer speed about 10 meters away from the router was about 5.07Mbps, which is a lot faster than the standard wireless G router.

In order to use the wireless N draft speed, you'll need to have a wireless-N Wi-Fi card. This shouldn't be a problem as most Santa Rosa laptops being sold in the market these days have wireless-N capability. Wireless-N USB adapters are also quite easy to find these days.

Justin Koh

**CHIP Conclude:** With its wide wireless reach and the Wireless-N draft speed, the D-Link DIR-615 router is a nice router for those who need a fast wireless network at an affordable price. The downside of the router is the lack of a USB printer port and also the confusing icon representations.



Can you guess what all these icons mean?

CHIP