

Amazon's inexpensive Eero mesh Wi-Fi kit is shockingly good

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- This Eero kit consists of three Eero routers, rather than the less-expensive one-router-and-two-Beacon kits.
Jim Salter
- Eero is neither particularly lovely nor unlovely in our opinion. But its all-white all-glossy finish is decidedly difficult to photograph.
Jim Salter
- This is the back of Eero. The two Ethernet jacks auto-sense whether they're connected to WAN or LAN; you don't need to worry about which you plug into what. The charging jack is USB-C.
Jim Salter
- Eero's white LED is a little bit bright for our tastes—it's OK during the day but can be obnoxious at night. It can be disabled entirely in the Eero app.
Jim Salter
- As always, we strongly recommend you physically label Wi-Fi mesh gear with the location where it should go.
Jim Salter

Eero specs at a glance	
Kit type	three-piece mesh

Wi-Fi 6 support	no
Radios	one 2×2 2.4GHz (each unit) one 2×2 5GHz (each unit)
Wired Ethernet	2 Gigabit jacks per unit
Family Filtering	Yes, with \$30/yr subscription
Internet Pause	Yes, both manual and scheduled

We finally got our hands on Amazon's redesigned second-gen Eero kit, and we won't bury the lede—it's a *fantastic* performer, especially for the price. Although its performance isn't on par with the Plume Superpods, it was easy to set up and didn't outright fail any of our torture tests. Eero maintained decent browsing latency all around the house, even while simultaneously delivering four emulated 4K video streams.

Don't get us wrong, there's still a lot of daylight between Eero and Plume—but with the Eero kit retailing for \$250 normally, and currently on special for \$189 with a free Echo Dot and *without* need for a subscription (for most features), it's a heck of a deal.

On the other hand, if you want Eero because of its Alexa integration... maybe you ought to wait a bit.

Setup is short and sweet

- When you begin setting up Eero, the first step is

telling it about your home. Or at least, it's supposed to be—these “Shape” and “Floors” buttons did nothing when we tried them. “Next” it is, then!

Jim Salter

- Eero suggests placement of units in its fake floor plan. This is unlikely to be helpful, since the “Edit home layout” button doesn't seem to work at the moment.

Jim Salter

- After placing each additional Eero unit past the router, the system will test for connectivity.

Jim Salter

- Assuming you didn't place your Eero out of reach, the test finishes and flatters you about your champion placement, and it's onto the next. When you run out of Eeros to place, you're done!

Jim Salter

Eero mesh Wi-fi system

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The setup process for Eero was gratifyingly quick, especially in comparison to the exhausting procedure Nest Wi-Fi put us through last month. But although it was quick and easy, some of the fancier bits seemed to be broken. In particular, the Eero app wants to offer you placement advice for your units based on a fake floorplan. There are buttons which offer to let you alter that floorplan to match your own—but at least in our testing, it didn't work. We tapped “Shape,” “Floors,” and, on the next screen, “Edit home layout” until our fingers were raw, but nothing happened.

Luckily, we know this home—and which layouts do and don't work in it—*extremely* well by now, so we just shrugged, placed our

Eeros, and called it a day. The whole thing was over and done with in well under 10 minutes—under five, if you don't count the time spent waiting for Eero units to cold boot when first plugged in.

Enlarge / As always, we strongly recommend you physically label Wi-Fi mesh gear with the location where it should go.

Jim Salter

As always, we'd like to remind everyone that you should *label* your mesh kit units physically as you set them up, as well as virtually inside the Eero app. You'll eventually be glad that you did.

Listing image by Jim Salter

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