

5 ways to fix Apple Watch error not connecting to WiFi

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Although Apple Watch can perform many functions offline, you still need an internet connection to take full advantage of its features. This is why you may be annoyed when your device refuses to connect to the WiFi network.

It's worse if your Apple Watch doesn't support cellular networks because you can't switch to a data plan. If this happens to you, don't worry! Here's everything you can try to restore your Apple Watch's WiFi connection and get it online again.

1. Turn airplane mode on and off

The first thing you should do when your Apple Watch refuses to connect to WiFi is turn on airplane mode for a few seconds, then turn it off. This can help refresh your device's connection settings and help your watch reconnect to your preferred network. Think of it like a mini reboot for the WiFi on your watch.

To turn airplane mode on and off on Apple Watch, swipe up from the bottom of the watch screen to access Control Center. Scroll down until you find the Airplane icon, then tap it to activate airplane mode. Wait a few seconds then click the Airplane icon again to turn it off.



2. Restart Apple Watch

A simple reboot can often resolve technical glitches, including WiFi connection problems. Restarting your Apple Watch can also help refresh its system and potentially resolve any connectivity issues.

Press and hold the side button until you see the Power Off icon in the upper right corner of the screen. Tap the icon, then drag the Power Off slider to the right to turn off Apple Watch. To turn it back on, press and hold the side button again until the Apple logo appears.



3. Restart the router

Network problems can sometimes originate from your router. These devices can become overloaded, especially if they are operated for long periods of time without rest. Sometimes, routers accumulate temporary or cached data that can affect its optimal performance. A simple reboot will usually clear up these minor glitches.

To properly reboot your router, unplug the power cable and wait a minute (or two) to ensure all remaining power is drained. After plugging the power back in, wait for the router to boot up, as shown by the indicator light. Once turned on, try reconnecting your Apple Watch to the WiFi network.

4. Update watchOS

Keep your Apple Watch software up to date to ensure you have the latest features, enhanced device security, and any bug fixes. Updates often target known issues, including connection-related issues, which may resolve your WiFi problems.

You can use the Watch app on iPhone to update watchOS or do it directly on Apple Watch by going to Settings > General > Software Update. Make sure your Apple Watch is plugged in or fully charged during this process.

5. Reset Apple Watch

Only consider resetting your Apple Watch after other troubleshooting steps have failed. When you perform a reset, your Apple Watch will erase all data and revert to factory settings. This can resolve any lingering glitches or broken configurations causing connection problems.

To reset Apple Watch, open the Settings app on the watch, then tap General. Scroll down, then tap Reset. Click Erase All Contents & Settings, then select Erase to confirm and continue. You will need to pair your Apple Watch with your new iPhone again once the process is complete.



Having problems with your Apple Watch's WiFi connection can be inconvenient. But following the troubleshooting steps mentioned above should help resolve this issue and get your device online again.

If you've tried all of these solutions and the problem persists, your Apple Watch hardware may be defective. In that case, you need to contact Apple support for expert help.

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