Imagine your router as your home's front door — except it came without a lock. If it stays that way, bad guys can easily come in uninvited, steal your things, and even install their own lock on their way out!

Most wireless routers come with extremely **easy-to-crack** default passwords.

{ect}
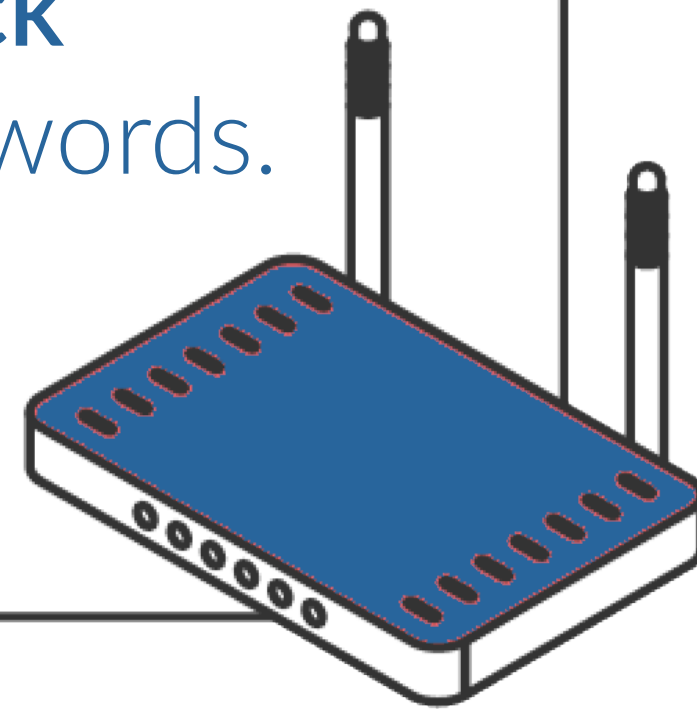
Follow these steps to increase the security of your network by **creating a strong and unique key** for your door — I mean, router!

1 Find out your router's IP address

2 Access the router settings

3 Change the router password

4 Configure your wi-fi settings
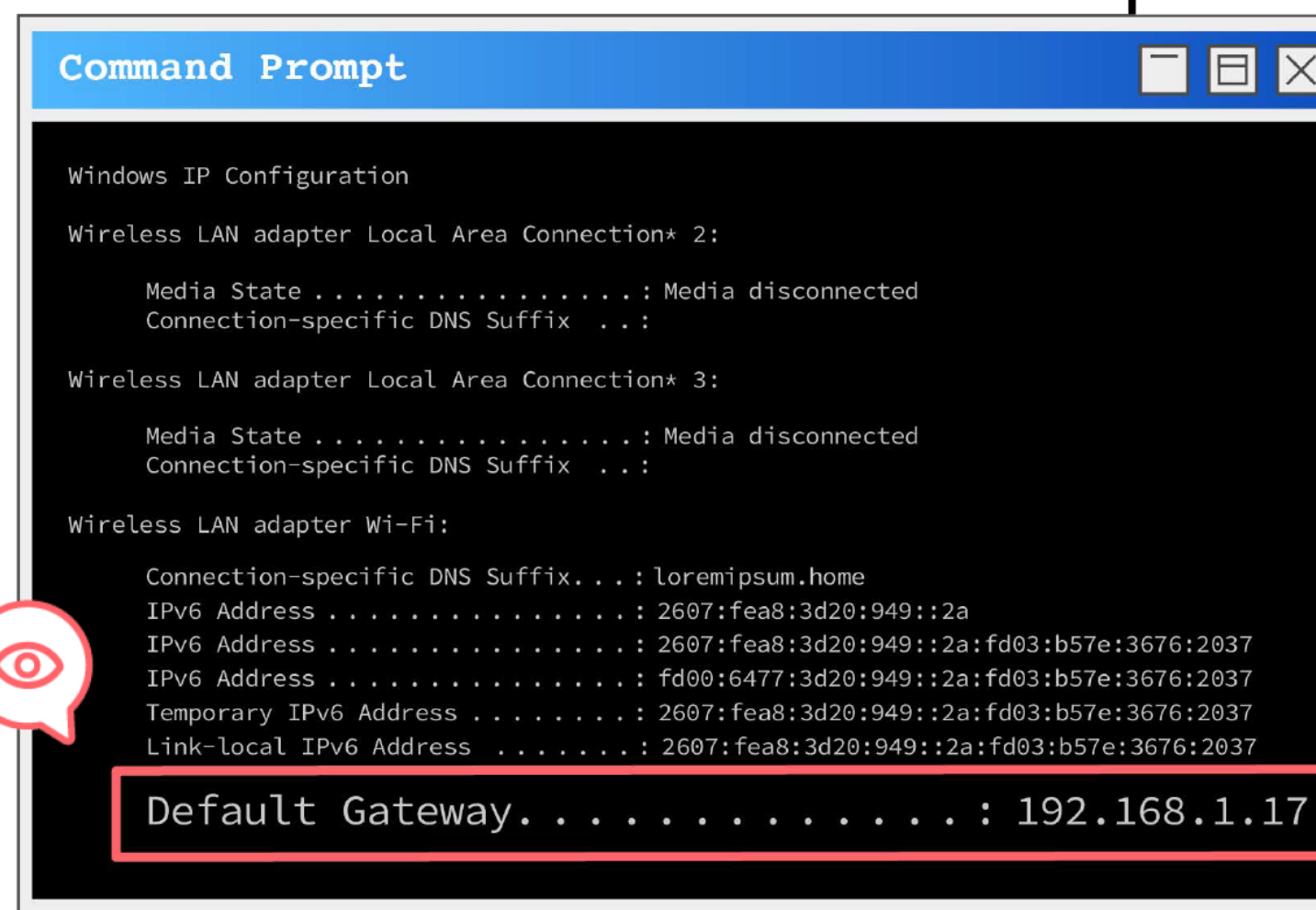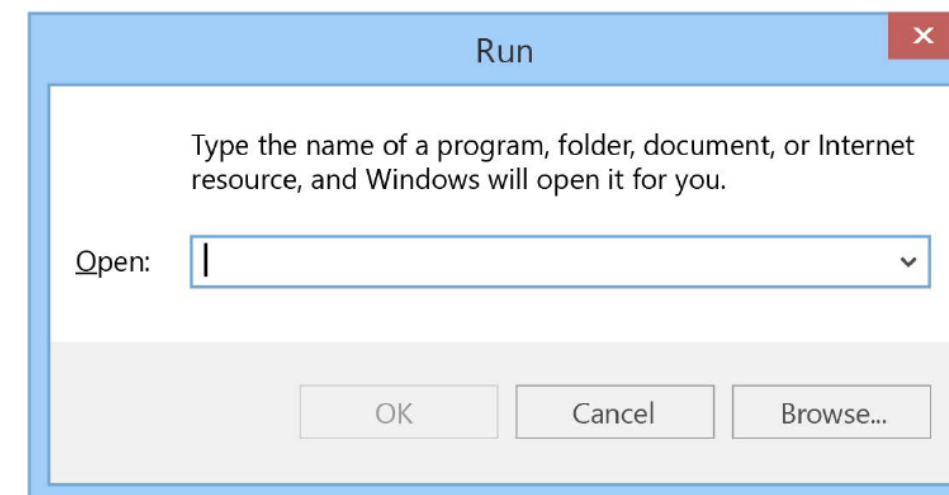
{ect}

Using a Windows

ON WINDOWS

Press the **Windows + R** keys, and then Enter. The Run dialog box will open. Type **cmd** and click OK.

The black screen that appears is the Command Prompt application.

Type **ipconfig** and press Enter. Search among the results for **Default Gateway.**

Next to it will be your **IP address** (a sequence of numbers similar to 192.168.1.1 or 10.0.1.1).

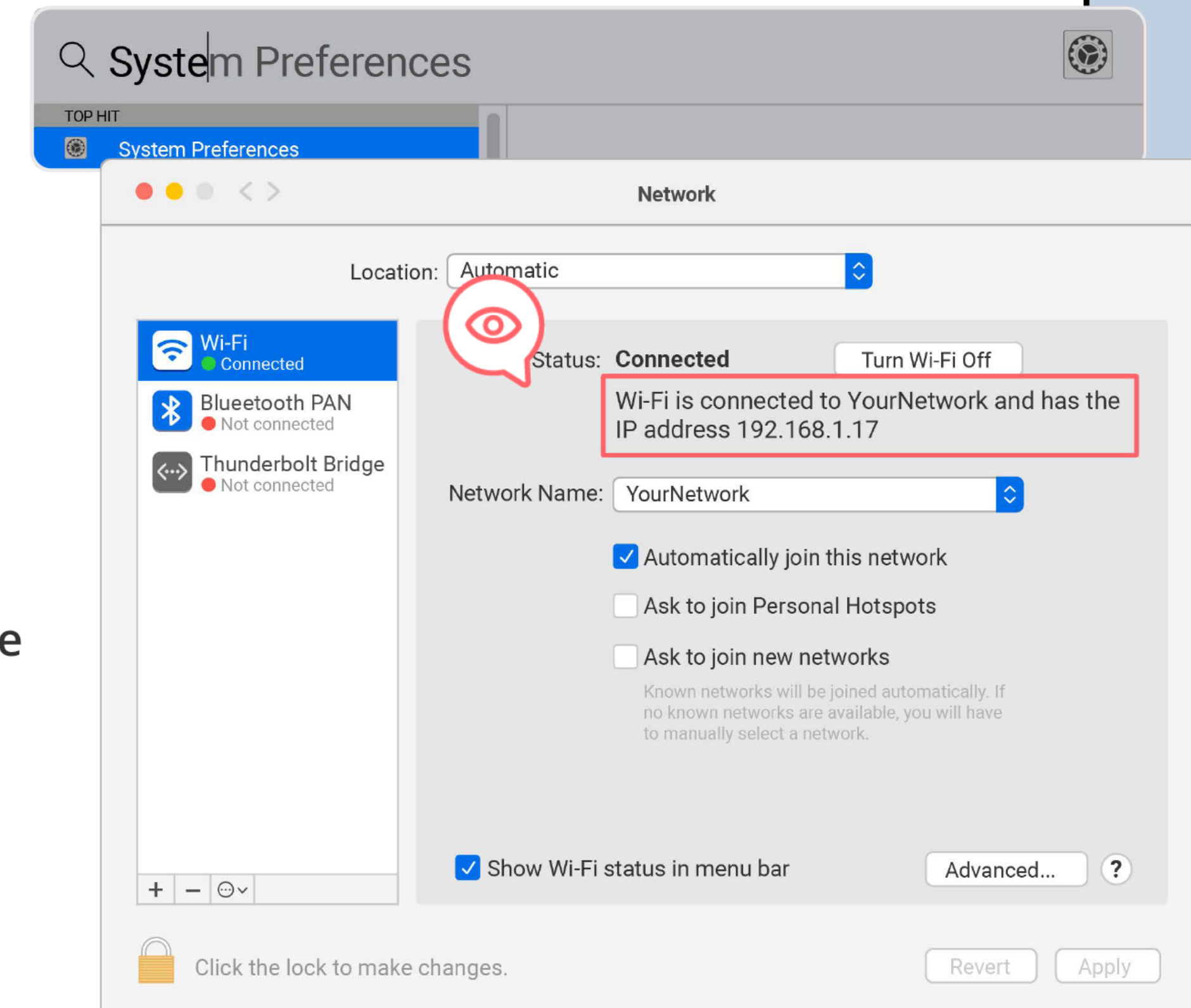**Copy the number**, and close the Command Prompt app.

Run

Type the name of a program, folder, document, or Internet resource, and Windows will open it for you.

Open: [|]

OK   Cancel   Browse...

Command Prompt

Windows IP Configuration

Wireless LAN adapter Local Area Connection* 2:

    Media State . . . . : Media disconnected
    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . :

Wireless LAN adapter Local Area Connection* 3:

    Media State . . . . : Media disconnected
    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . :

Wireless LAN adapter Wi-Fi:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . . : loremipsum.home
    IPv6 Address . . . . : 2607:fea8:3d20:949::2a
    IPv6 Address . . . . : 2607:fea8:3d20:949::2a:fd03:b57e:3676:2037
    IPv6 Address . . . . : fd00:6477:3d20:949::2a:fd03:b57e:3676:2037
    Temporary IPv6 Address . . . . . . : 2607:fea8:3d20:949::2a:fd03:b57e:3676:2037
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . . : 2607:fea8:3d20:949::2a:fd03:b57e:3676:2037

    Default Gateway. . . . . : 192.168.1.17

{ect}

#1 How to Find Your Router IP Address
Using a Mac

ON MAC

Type **Command + Space** and search for **System Preferences.** Double-click on the **Network** icon.

Select either **Wi-Fi** or **Ethernet** on the left side, and your IP address will be displayed **as a sequence of numbers similar to 192.168.1.1 or 10.0.1.1.**

Copy the number, and close the window.

Q System Preferences

TOP HIT
System Preferences

Network

Location: Automatic

Wi-Fi
Connected

Blueetooth PAN
Not connected

Thunderbolt Bridge
Not connected

Status: **Connected**   Turn Wi-Fi Off

Wi-Fi is connected to YourNetwork and has the IP address 192.168.1.17

Network Name: YourNetwork

☑ Automatically join this network
☐ Ask to join Personal Hotspots
☐ Ask to join new networks

Known networks will be joined automatically. If no known networks are available, you will have to manually select a network.

☑ Show Wi-Fi status in menu bar   Advanced...   ?

🔒 Click the lock to make changes.   Revert   Apply

{ect}

2. Access the router settings

- Open your browser.

- Paste the IP address that you copied in step #1 into the browser's address bar.

- Hit Enter.

- A login screen will appear.

Your router's login credentials can typically be found on a label located directly on the router.
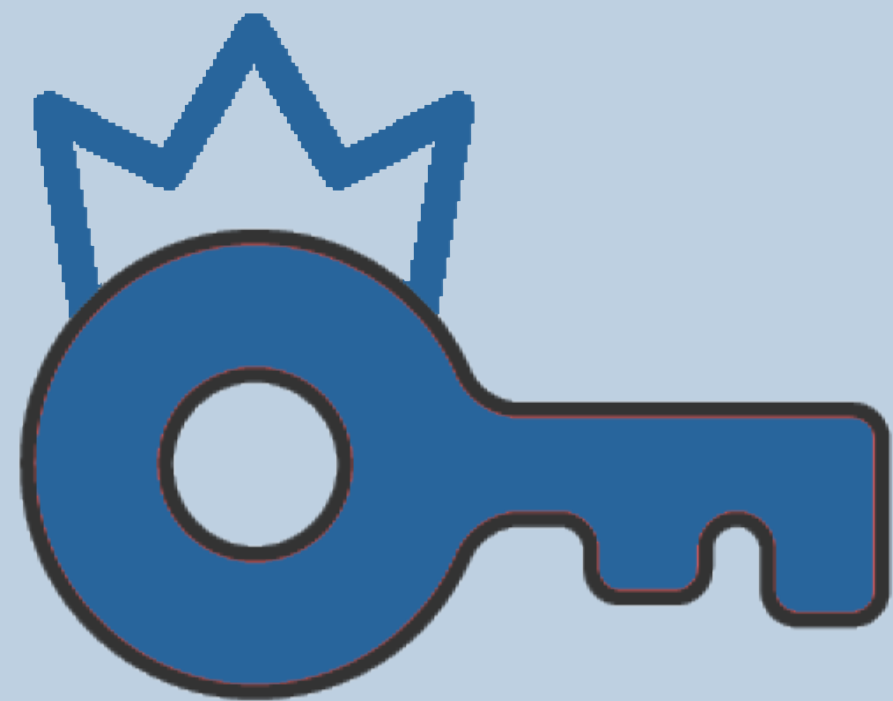
192.168.1.17

YOUR ROUTER
B R A N D

Login
Username:
Password:

OK   Cancel
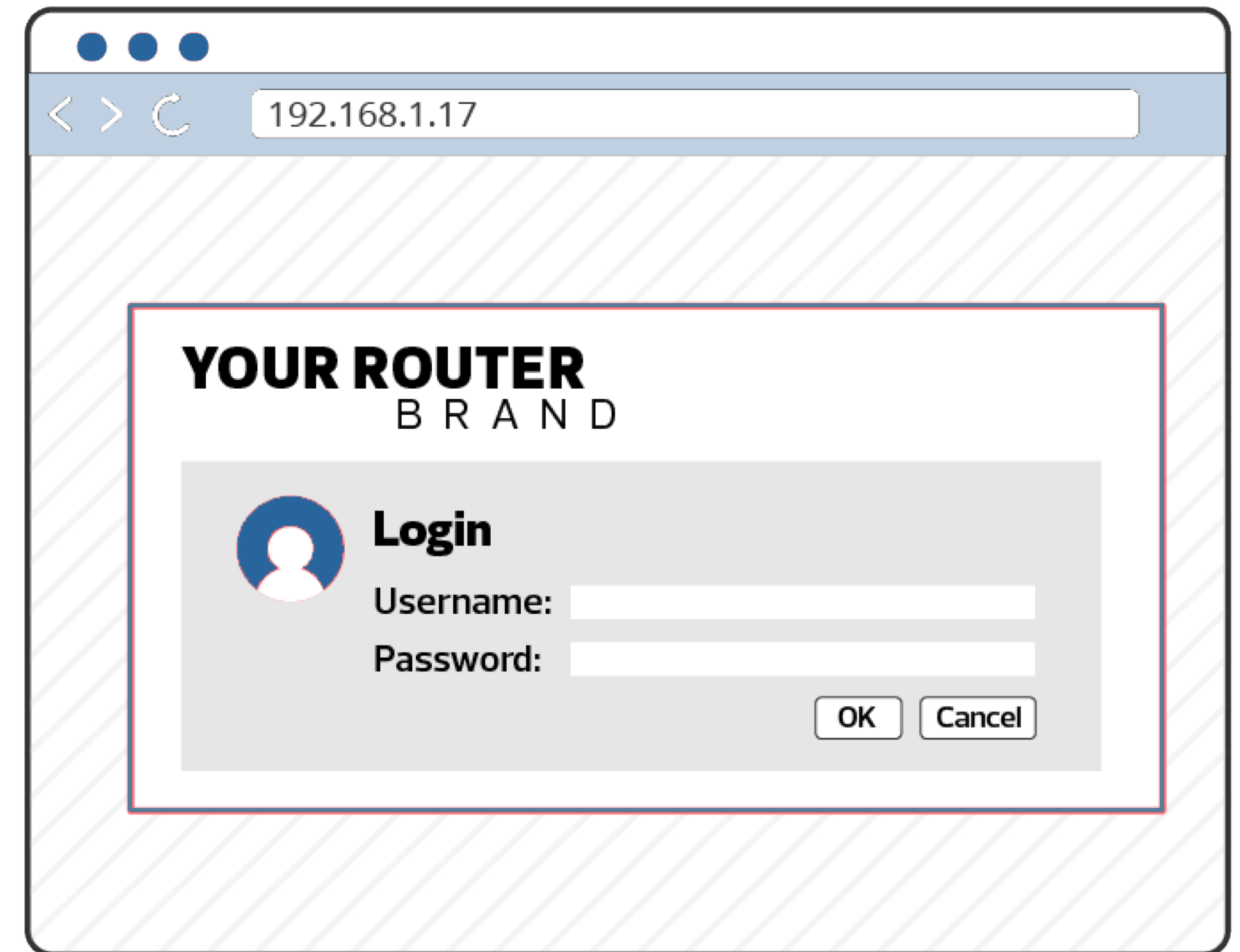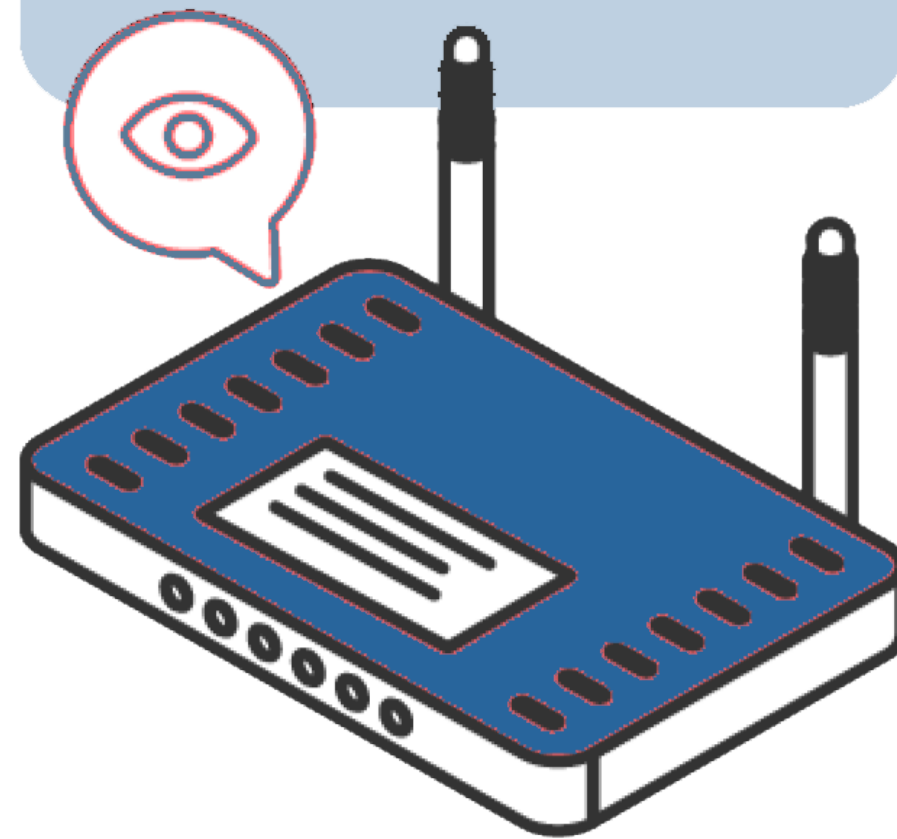
If you cannot find the label, look up your router's default password in the official manual or on the internet, where you can search for "[model type] router password."

{ect}

#4 Configure your Wi-Fi Settings

YOUR ROUTER
B R A N D

192.168.1.17

Home | Settings | **Wireless** | Advanced

Network Name (SSID):

Wireless Password:

Security/Encryption: WPA2 Personal

Change the name (SSID —Service Set Identifier) of your Wi-Fi network, following your manual's instructions.

Never use your own name remember that this information will be public to your neighborhood.

Create a new Wi-Fi password that is **strong and difficult** to guess but easy to remember.

{ect}

That's It!

You have just created an important layer of security for your home network. If you have questions regarding these instructions, contact your organization's IT team.

{ect}