

Instant Wireless® Series

# Wireless-G Notebook Adapter



Use this Guide to install the following:

**WPC54G**

User Guide

**LINKSYS®**

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##### FCC STATEMENT

The Instant Wireless® Wireless-G Notebook Adapter has been tested and found to comply with the specifications for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and
- (2) This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used according to the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which is found by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna
- Increase the separation between the equipment or devices
- Connect the equipment to an outlet other than the receiver's
- Consult a dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for assistance

FCC Caution: Any change or modification to the product not expressly approved by Linksys could void the user's authority to operate the device.

##### FCC RF Radiation Exposure Statement

To comply with the FCC and ANSI C95.1 RF exposure limits, the antenna(s) for this device must comply with the following:

- Access points with 2.4 GHz or 5 GHz integrated antenna must operate with a separation distance of at least 20 cm from all persons using the cable provided and must not be co-located or operating in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter.

End-users must be provided with specific operations for satisfying RF exposure compliance.

Note: Dual antennas used for diversity operation are not considered co-located.

##### Canadian Department of Communications Industry Canada (IC) Notice

This Class B digital apparatus complies with Canadian ICES-003 and RSS-210.

Cet appareil numérique de la classe B est conforme à la norme NMB-003 et CNR-210 du Canada.

"To prevent radio interference to the licensed service, this device is intended to be operated indoors and away from windows to provide maximum shielding. Equipment (or its transmit antenna) that is installed outdoors is subject to licensing."

" Pour empêcher que cet appareil cause du brouillage au service faisant l'objet d'une licence, il doit être utilisé à l'intérieur et devrait être placé loin des fenêtres afin de fournir un écran de blindage maximal. Si le matériel (ou son antenne d'émission) est installé à l'extérieur, il doit faire l'objet d'une licence. "

##### EC DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY (EUROPE)

Linksys Group declares that the Instant Wireless® Series products included in the Instant Wireless® Series conform to the specifications listed below, following the provisions of the European R&TTE directive 1999/5/EC, EMC directive 89/336/EEC, and Low Voltage directive 73/23/EEC:

For 11Mbps, 2.4 GHz devices with 100 mW radios, the following standards were applied:

- ETS 300-826, 301 489-1 General EMC requirements for Radio equipment.
- EN 609 50 Safety
- ETS 300-328-2 Technical requirements for Radio equipment.

Caution: This equipment is intended to be used in all EU and EFTA countries. Outdoor use may be restricted to certain frequencies and/or may require a license for operation. Contact local Authority for procedure to follow.

Note: Combinations of power levels and antennas resulting in a radiated power level of above 100 mW equivalent isotropic radiated power (EIRP) are considered as not compliant with the above mentioned directive and are not allowed for use within the European community and countries that have adopted the European R&TTE directive 1999/5/EC and/or the CEPT recommendation Rec 70.03.

For more details on legal combinations of power levels and antennas, contact Linksys Corporate Compliance.

- Linksys Group vakuuttaa täten että Instant Wireless® Wireless-G Notebook Adapter tyyppinen laite on direktiivin 1999/5/EY, direktiivin 89/336/EEC ja direktiivin 73/23/EEC oleellisten vaatimusten ja sitä koskevien näiden direktiivien muiden ehtojen mukainen.
- Linksys Group déclare que la Instant Wireless® Wireless-G Notebook Adapter est conforme aux conditions essentielles et aux dispositions relatives à la directive 1999/5/EC, la directive 89/336/EEC, et à la directive 73/23/EEC.
- Belgique B L'utilisation en extérieur est autorisé sur le canal 11 (2462 MHz), 12 (2467 MHz), et 13 (2472 MHz). Dans le cas d'une utilisation privée, à l'extérieur d'un bâtiment, au-dessus d'un espace public, aucun enregistrement n'est nécessaire pour une distance de moins de 300m. Pour une distance supérieure à 300m un enregistrement auprès de l'IBPT est requise. Pour une utilisation publique à l'extérieur de bâtiments, une licence de l'IBPT est requise. Pour les enregistrements et licences, veuillez contacter l'IBPT.
- France F:  
2.4 GHz Bande : les canaux 10, 11, 12, 13 (2457, 2462, 2467, et 2472 MHz respectivement) sont complètement libres d'utilisation en France (en utilisation intérieur). Pour ce qui est des autres canaux, ils peuvent être soumis à autorisation selon le département. L'utilisation en extérieur est soumis à autorisation préalable et très restreint.

2.4 GHz Band: only channels 10, 11, 12, 13 (2457, 2462, 2467, and 2472 MHz respectively) may be used freely in France for indoor use. License required for outdoor installations.

- Deutschland D: Anmeldung im Outdoor-Bereich notwendig, aber nicht genehmigungspflichtig. Bitte mit Händler die Vorgehensweise abstimmen.
- Germany D: License required for outdoor installations. Check with reseller for procedure to follow.
- Italia I: E' necessaria la concessione ministeriale anche per l'uso interno. Verificare con i rivenditori la procedura da seguire. L'uso per installazione in esterni non e' permessa.
- Italy I: License required for indoor use. Use with outdoor installations not allowed.
- The Netherlands NL License required for outdoor installations. Check with reseller for procedure to follow.
- Nederlands NL Licentie verplicht voor gebruik met buitenantennes. Neem contact op met verkoper voor juiste procedure.

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# Chapter 1: Introduction

## The Wireless-G Notebook Adapter

Wireless-G is the upcoming 54Mbps wireless networking standard that's almost five times faster than the widely deployed Wireless-B (802.11b) products found in homes, businesses, and public wireless hotspots around the country — but since they share the same 2.4GHz radio band, Wireless-G devices can also work with existing 11Mbps Wireless-B equipment. The new Wireless-G Notebook Adapter from Linksys has both standards built in, so you can connect your notebook to existing 802.11b infrastructure, and also the new screaming fast Wireless-G networks. The included Setup Wizard will walk you through configuring the adapter to your network's settings, step by step. Then just slide it into your notebook's PC Card slot and enjoy network access with your notebook computer, while retaining true mobility.

Once you're connected, you can keep in touch with your e-mail, access the Internet, and share files and other resources such as printers and network storage with other computers on the network, wherever you wander. At home, you can surf the web or use instant messaging to chat with friends while sitting out on the patio. You'll also be able to connect with any of the growing number of public wireless hotspots springing up in coffee shops, airport lounges, hotels and convention centers. And as those hotspots upgrade to the new high-speed Wireless-G standard, you'll be ready to take advantage of the increased speeds. Get connected to current-standard 802.11b networks today, and be prepared for the future with the Wireless-G Notebook Adapter from Linksys.

## Features

- High-speed Wireless-G (draft 802.11g) networking for your notebook computer
- Data rates up to 54Mbps -- 5 times faster than Wireless-B (802.11b)
- Also interoperates with Wireless-B networks (at 11Mbps)
- Wireless security -- up to 128-bit WEP encryption
- Free Technical Support—24 Hours a Day, 7 Days a Week, Toll-Free US Calls
- 1-Year Limited Warranty

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# Chapter 2: Planning Your Wireless Network

## Network Topology

A wireless local area network (WLAN) is exactly like a regular local area network (LAN), except that each computer in the WLAN uses a wireless device to connect to the network. Computers in a WLAN share the same frequency channel and SSID, which is an identification name for wireless devices.

## Ad-Hoc versus Infrastructure Mode

Unlike wired networks, wireless networks have two different modes in which they may be set up: **infrastructure** and **ad-hoc**. An infrastructure configuration is a WLAN and wired LAN communicating to each other through an access point. An ad-hoc configuration is wireless-equipped computers communicating directly with each other. Choosing between these two modes depends on whether or not the wireless network needs to share data or peripherals with a wired network or not.

If the computers on the wireless network need to be accessed by a wired network or need to share a peripheral, such as a printer, with the wired network computers, the wireless network should be set up in **infrastructure** mode. (See Figure 2-1.) The basis of infrastructure mode centers around an *access point*, which serves

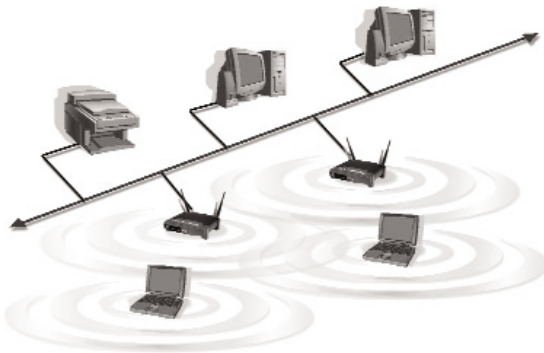


Figure 2-1

as the main point of communications in a wireless network. Access points transmit data to PCs equipped with wireless network cards, which can *roam* within a certain radial range of the access point. Multiple access points can be arranged to work in succession to extend the roaming range, and can be set up to communicate with your Ethernet (wired) hardware as well.

If the wireless network is relatively small and needs to share resources only with the other computers on the wireless network, then the **ad-hoc** mode can be used. (See Figure 2-2.) Ad-hoc mode allows computers equipped with wireless transmitters and receivers to communicate directly with each other, eliminating the need for an access point. The drawback of this mode is that, in Ad-Hoc mode, wireless-equipped computers are not able to communicate with computers on a wired network. And, of course, communication between the wireless-equipped computers is limited by the distance and interference directly between them.



Figure 2-2

## Chapter 3: Getting to Know the Wireless-G Notebook Adapter

### The Adapter's LEDs



Figure 3-1

|              |                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Power</b> | <i>Green.</i> The Power LED lights up when the Adapter is powered on.                                                                                                             |
| <b>Link</b>  | <i>Green.</i> The Link LED lights up and stays solid when the Adapter is inserted correctly and a link is established with the Notebook. The LED flashes when there is no signal. |

## Chapter 4: Software Installation and Configuration for Windows 98SE, Me, and 2000

### Overview

The Wireless-G Notebook Adapter Setup Wizard will guide you through the installation procedure for Windows 98SE, Me, and 2000. The Setup Wizard will install the WLAN Monitor and driver, as well as configure the Adapter.



**Important for Windows XP users:** Do **NOT** run the Setup Wizard. Proceed directly to “Chapter 5: Hardware Installation.”



**Important for Windows 98SE, Me, and 2000 users:** You must run the Setup Wizard to install the software before installing the hardware.

Insert the **Setup Wizard CD-ROM** into your CD-ROM drive. The Setup Wizard should run automatically, and Figure 4-1 should appear. If it does not, click the **Start** button and choose **Run**. In the field that appears, enter **D:\setup.exe** (if “D” is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).



Figure 4-1

## Setup Wizard Instructions for Windows 98SE, Me, and 2000

1. To install the Adapter, click the **Install** button on the *Welcome* screen, Figure 4-1. Click **User Guide** to view the User Guide or click **Exit** to exit the Setup Wizard.
2. After reading the License Agreement, click the **Next** button to continue the installation, or click the **Cancel** button to end the installation.

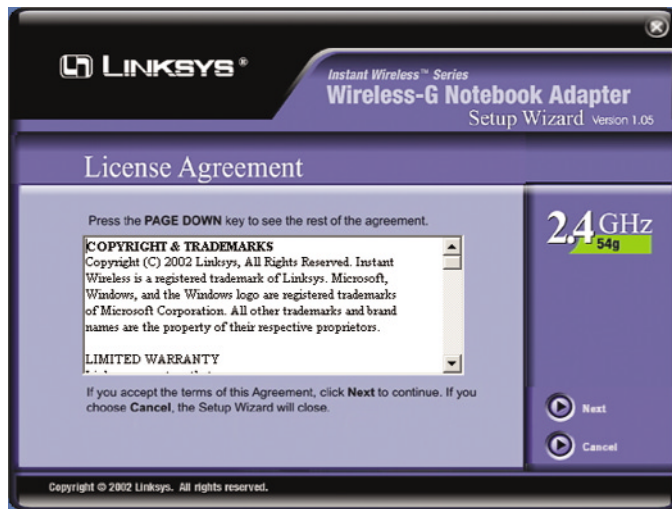


Figure 4-2

## Wireless-G Notebook Adapter

3. The Setup Wizard will ask you to choose a wireless mode. Click the **Infrastructure Mode** radio button if you want your wireless computers to network with computers on your wired network using a wireless access point. Click the **Ad-Hoc Mode** radio button if you want multiple wireless computers to network directly with each other. Do not use the Ad-Hoc mode if you want your wireless computers to communicate with computers on your wired network.

In the **SSID** field, enter the **SSID** of your wireless network. The SSID must be identical for all devices in the network. The default setting is **linksys** (all lowercase). Click the **Next** button, or click the **Back** button to return to the previous page.

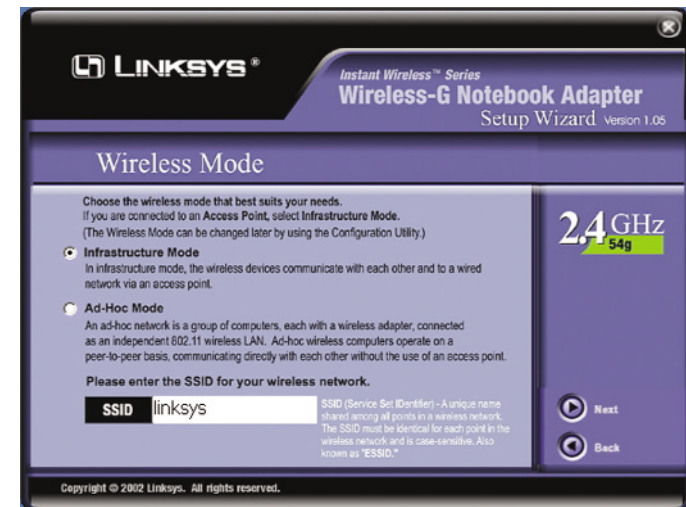


Figure 4-3

4. If you chose Infrastructure Mode, go to **Step 5** now. If you chose Ad-Hoc Mode, select the correct operating channel for your network from the *Channel* drop-down menu. Then, select the *Network Mode* from the drop-down menu. Click the **Next** button, and go to **Step 4**. Click the **Back** button to change any settings.

**Channel** - The channel you choose should match the channel set on the other devices in your wireless network. If you are unsure about which channel to use, select the default channel (Channel 6).

**Network Mode** - Select **Mixed Mode**, and both Wireless-G and Wireless-B computers will be allowed on the network, but the speed will be reduced. Select **G-Only Mode** for maximum speed, but no Wireless-B users will be allowed on the network.

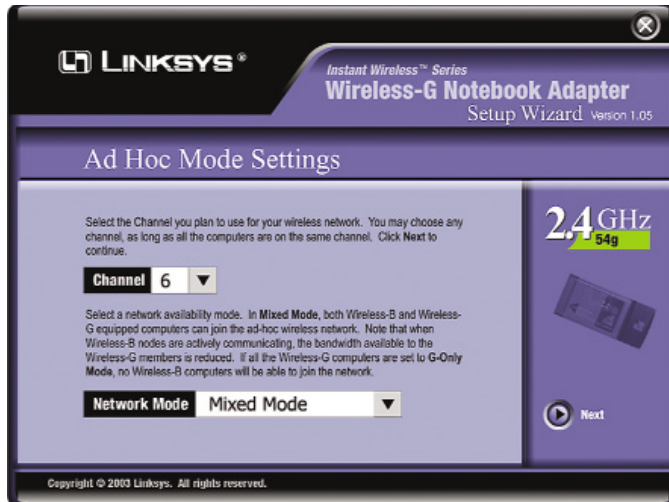


Figure 4-4

5. The Setup Wizard will ask you to review your settings before it starts to copy files. Click the **Next** button to save these settings, or click the **Back** button to change any settings.

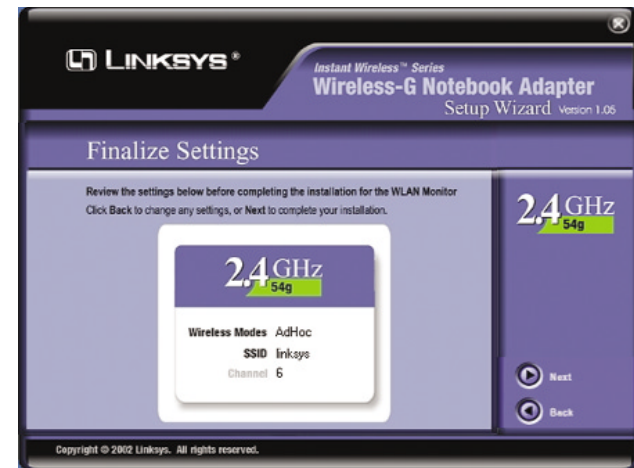


Figure 4-5

6. After the files have been successfully copied, the screen in Figure 4-6 will appear. Click the **Exit** button.

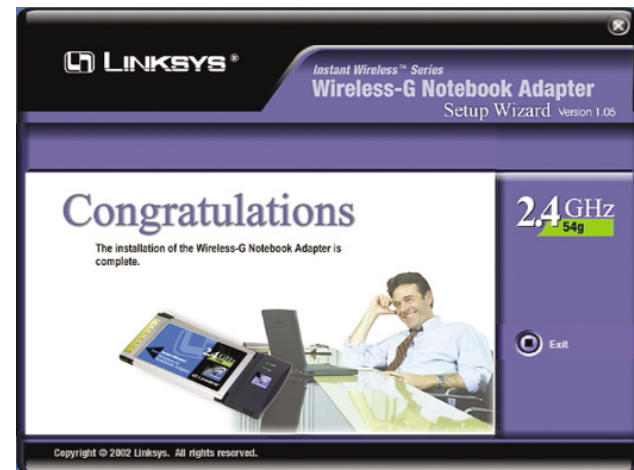


Figure 4-6

Proceed to “Chapter 5: Hardware Installation.”

## Chapter 5: Hardware Installation



**Important for Windows 98SE, Me, and 2000 users:** You must run the Setup Wizard to install the software before installing the hardware.



**Important for Windows XP users:** You must install the Adapter's hardware before installing the software.

1. Turn off your notebook PC.
2. Locate an available CardBus slot on your notebook PC.
3. With the Adapter's label facing up, as shown in Figure 5-1, slide the Adapter completely into the CardBus slot.
4. Restart your notebook PC.



Figure 5-1

5. Windows will begin copying the driver files to your computer. If Windows asks you for the original Windows CD-ROM, insert the CD-ROM, and direct Windows to its proper location (e.g., D:\).

**If your PC is using Windows 98SE, Me, or 2000, proceed to the next section, “Chapter 7: Using the WLAN Monitor for Windows 98SE, Me, and 2000.”**

**If your PC is using Windows XP, proceed to “Chapter 6: Driver Installation and Configuration for Windows XP.”**

## Chapter 6: Driver Installation and Configuration for Windows XP

### Overview

After inserting the Adapter into your notebook, you will install the driver and configure the Adapter.

### Driver Installation for Windows XP

1. Windows XP will automatically detect the Adapter. Insert the Setup CD-ROM into the CD-ROM drive. Click the radio button next to **Install the software automatically (Recommended)**. Then click the **Next** button.



Figure 6-1

2. When Windows has finished installing the driver, click the **Finish** button.

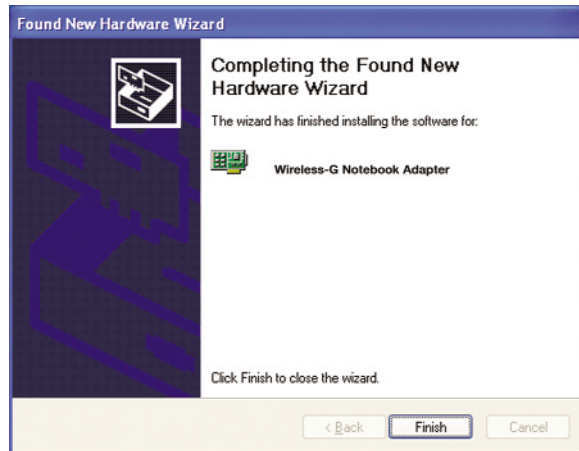


Figure 6-2

**You have now completed the driver installation for the Adapter. To configure the Adapter, proceed to the next section, “Windows XP Wireless Zero Configuration.”**

## Windows XP Wireless Zero Configuration



**For Windows XP users:** Windows XP has a built-in configuration tool. Use Windows XP Wireless Zero Configuration (in the system tray at the bottom of your screen) to configure the Adapter.

1. After installing the Adapter, the Windows XP Wireless Zero Configuration icon will appear in your computer's system tray (see Figure 6-3). Double-click the icon.



Figure 6-3

2. The screen that appears will show any available wireless network. Select the network you want.

If this network has WEP encryption enabled, go to step 3. If this network does not have WEP encryption enabled, then the screen in Figure 6-4 will appear. Check the box next to *Allow me to connect to the selected wireless network, even though it is not secure*. Then click the **Connect** button and go to step 4.

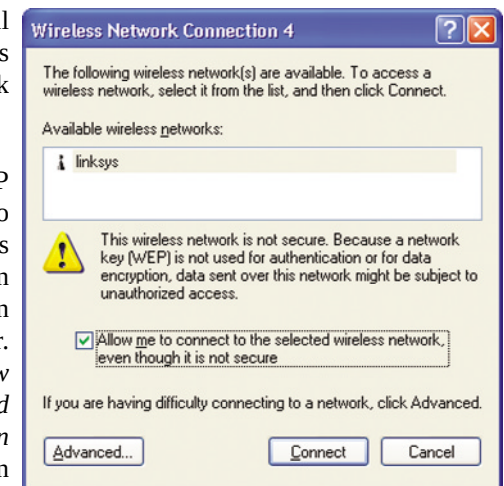


Figure 6-4



**Note:** In Steps 2 and 3, these are the instructions and screenshots for Windows XP with Service Pack 1 installed. If you have not installed Service Pack 1, select the network you want, and click the **Connect** button. If the network has WEP encryption enabled, enter the WEP key in the *Network key* field, and then click the **Connect** button.

3. The screen in Figure 6-5 will appear. Enter the WEP key of your wireless network in the *Network key* field, and re-enter it in the *Confirm network key* field. Click the **Connect** button.



**Note:** Wireless Zero Configuration does not support the use of a passphrase. Enter the exact WEP key used by your access point.

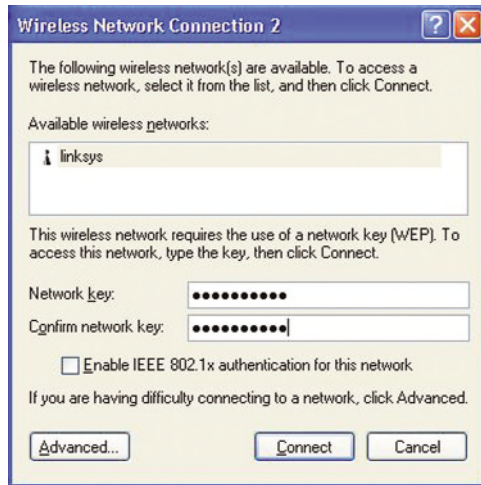


Figure 6-5

4. The screen in Figure 6-6 will appear if your connection is active.



Figure 6-6

For more information about WEP, refer to your access point's documentation, or visit [www.linksys.com](http://www.linksys.com).

For more information about wireless networking on a Windows XP computer, enter the keyword **wireless** in the Windows XP search engine.

**Congratulations!**

**Your notebook is now connected to your wireless network.**

## Chapter 7: Using the WLAN Monitor for Windows 98SE, Me, and 2000

### Overview

Use the WLAN Monitor to check the link information, search for available wireless networks, or create profiles that hold different configuration settings.

### Accessing the WLAN Monitor

After installing the Adapter, the Wireless-G Notebook Adapter WLAN Monitor icon will appear in your system tray. Double-click the icon (see Figure 7-1).



Figure 7-1

The *Link Information* screen will appear. From this screen, you can find out how strong the current wireless signal is and how good the connection's quality is. You can also click the *More Information* button to view additional status information about the current wireless connection. To search for available wireless networks, click the **Site Survey** tab. To perform configuration changes, click the **Profiles** tab.



Figure 7-2