



Instruction Sheet

Change network type from Public to Private in Windows 10

Updated on 12th January 2016

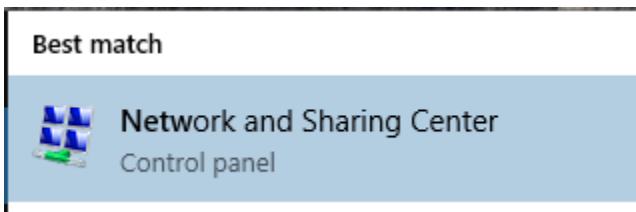
When you connect to a network for the first time in Windows 10, the network location is automatically set to *Public*. This is the safest option as it will keep your computer invisible on the network. You should keep this default option whenever you connect your PC to a public network such as the Wi-Fi in Hotels, airport, trains, shopping malls etc.,. On the other hand, if you are connecting to a private network such as your home network you might want to share music, pictures, videos etc., or even printers with other devices on that network. In such situations, you can change the network location to *Private* to make your computer discoverable to other computers.

The following steps demonstrate how to **change a network location from Public to Private or Private to Public**.

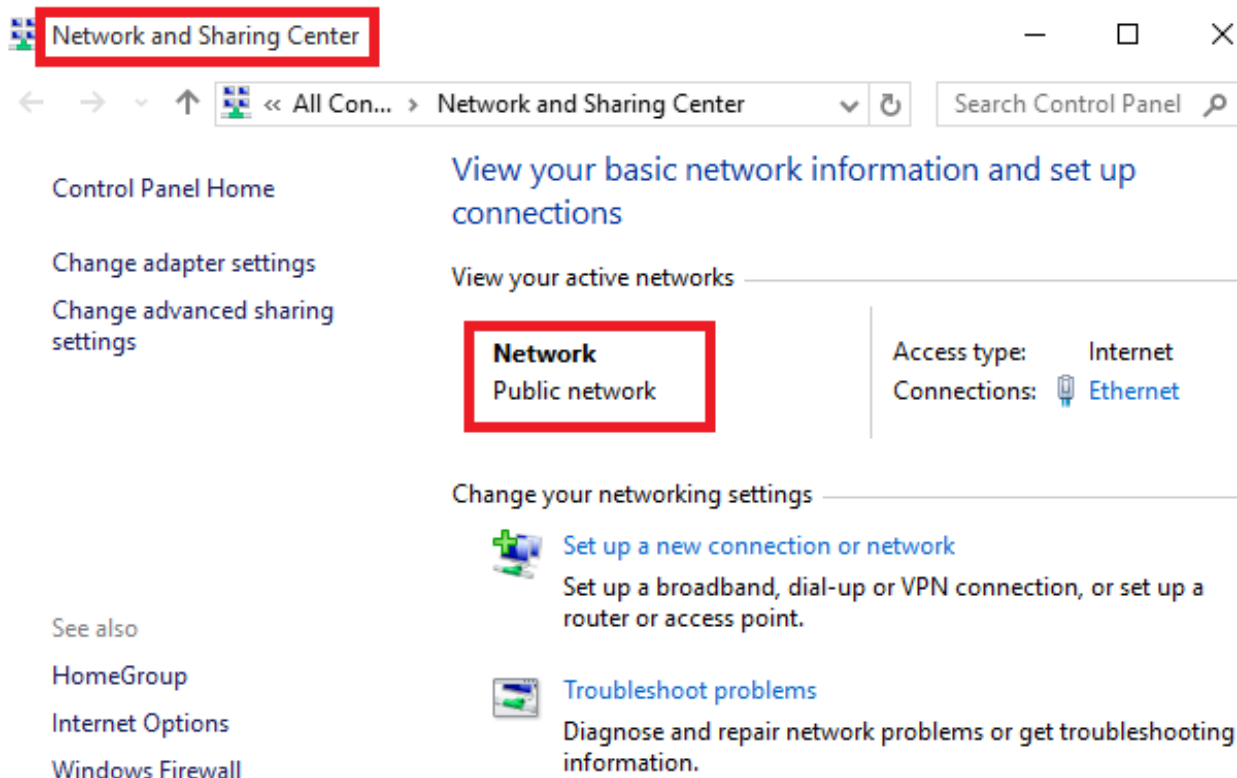
Step 1: Find the current network type of your connection

Go to *Network and Sharing Center*. The easiest way to do this is right click on the network icon in bottom-right corner of taskbar and select *Open Network and Sharing Center*.

Alternatively start typing *Network and sharing* in *Search the web and Windows* box and select *Network and Sharing Center*, Control panel item.

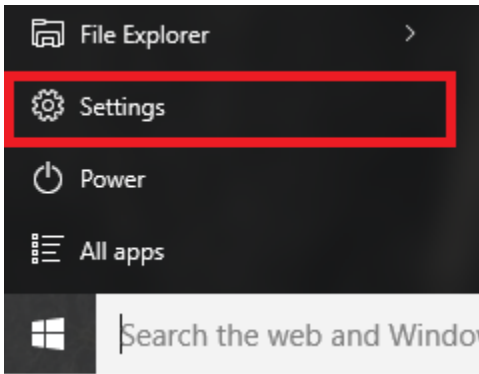


The figure below shows the network location is *Public*

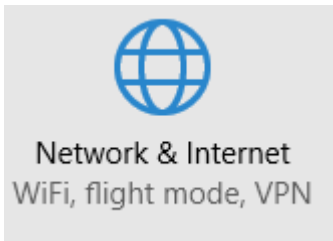


Step 2. Change network location from Public to Private

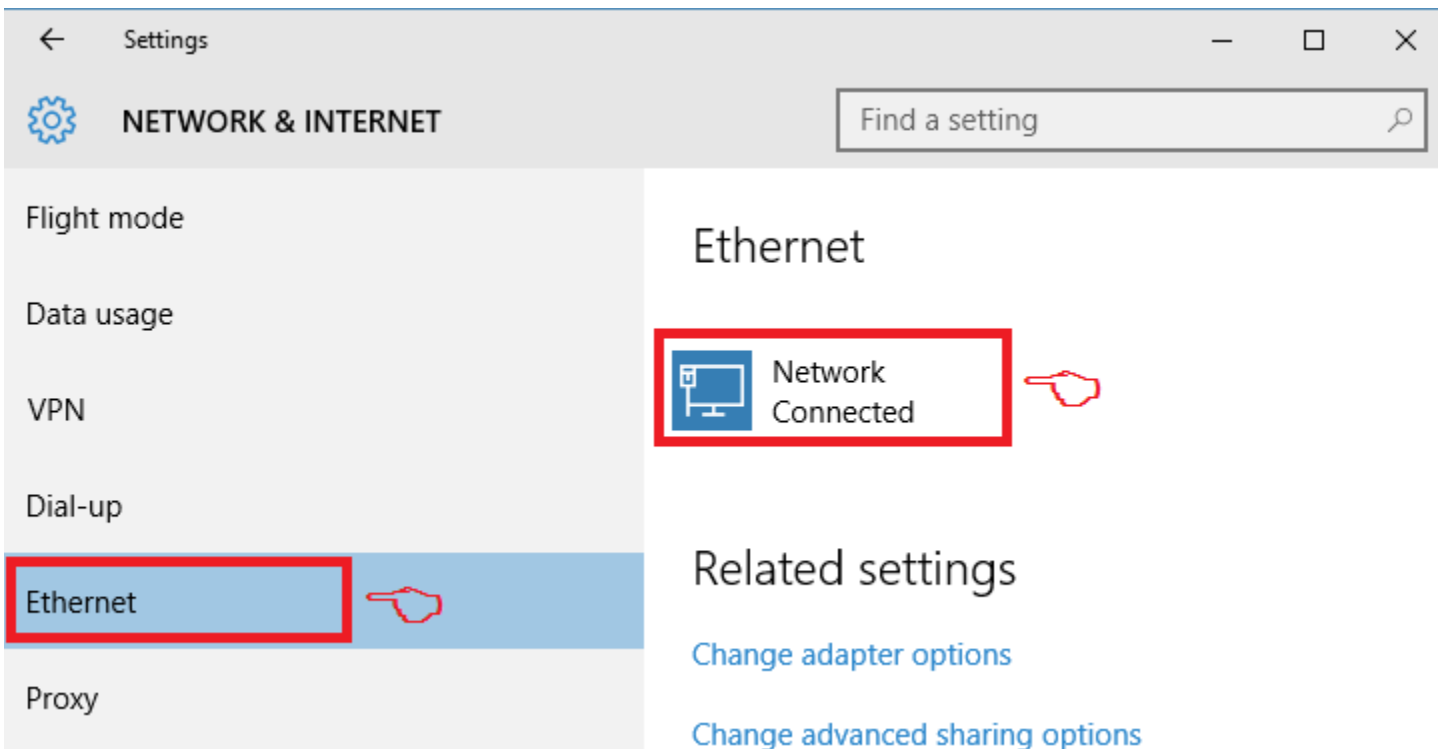
Click Windows Key and select Settings from start menu



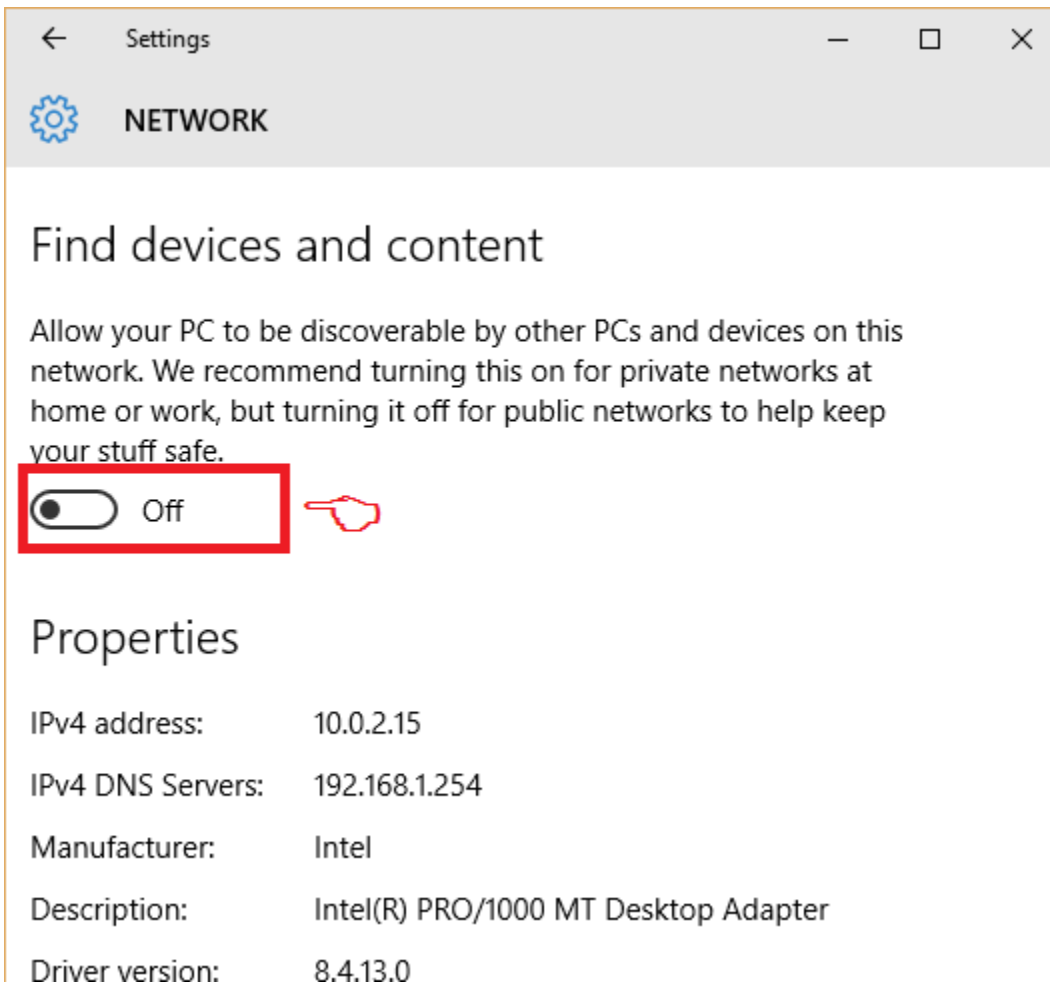
From the settings window click *Network & Internet*



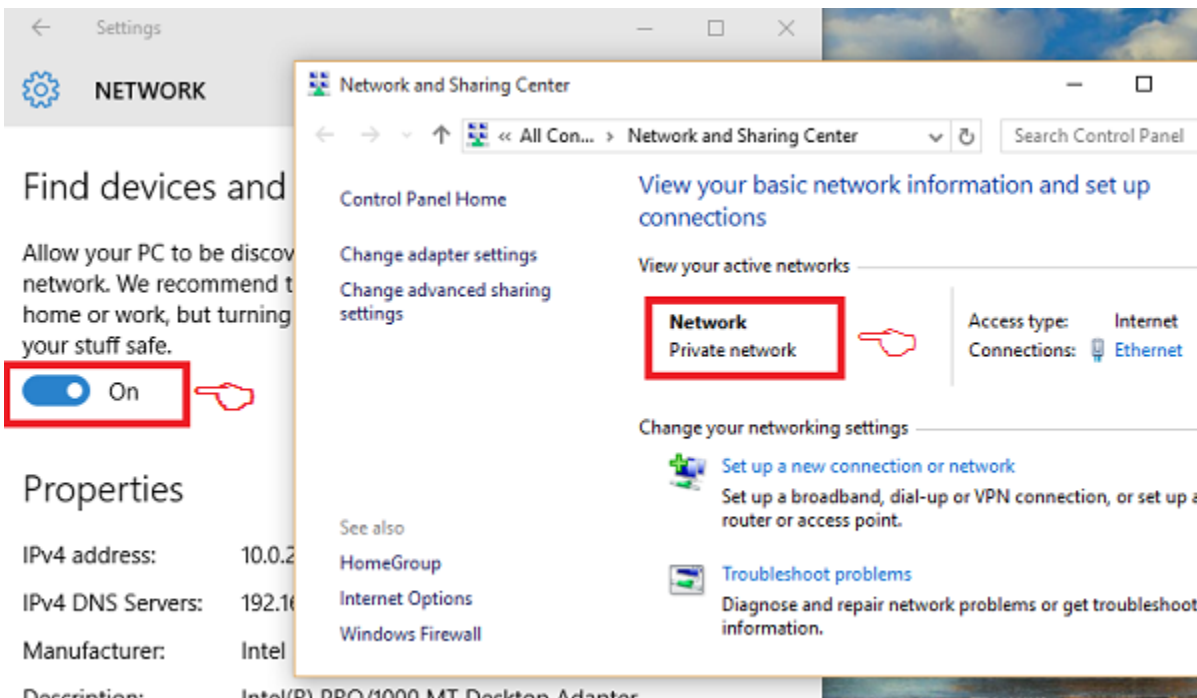
Click *Ethernet* from the left menu and then Click on your network connection icon



Turn on the button for *Find devices and content*



The network location will then change to *Private*



Change network type from Private to Public

To change the network type back from *Private* to *Public* simply turn off button under *Find devices and content*

Private network type will have Network discovery on by default which allows other devices on the network to see your PC. You could customize this option from **Advanced Sharing Setting** menu in Network and Sharing Center. To share files and devices on a Private network you need to first create a **homegroup** and choose what to share.

If you don't intend to share anything on the network, then the best option is to keep the network type as Public

Fix for Wi-Fi Network Connection

Step 1 - click on the Wi-Fi icon in the System Tray



Step 2 & 3 - click on the 'Connected' Wi-Fi connection at the top of the list, submenu opens, click 'Properties'



Step 4 - under 'Make this PC discoverable' move the slider to 'On'

