1. Sign into your Nest Account with the Nest app

If you don’t have an account, tap Sign up to create one for free using your email address.
2. Add a camera to your Nest Account

If you’re new to Nest:
Once you’re signed in, tap the Add New button from the Nest app home screen. Then choose which camera you’d like to add. If you’re adding a Nest Cam Indoor or Nest Cam Outdoor, choose Nest Cam.

If you already own a Nest product:
Select the Settings icon (it’s shaped like a gear) in the top right of the Nest app home screen. Tap Add product, then choose which camera you’d like to add. If you’re adding a Nest Cam Indoor or Nest Cam Outdoor, choose Nest Cam.

Note: If you have more than one home in your Nest Account, make sure that you’ve first selected the home where you want to install your camera. Tap the menu icon in the top left of the home screen to change homes.
3. Scan the QR code

The Nest app will ask you to scan your Nest Cam’s QR code, using your phone or tablet. The QR code is on the back (Indoor) or underside (Outdoor) of your Nest Cam.

Fit the QR code inside the blue box and the app will automatically capture it.

Note: You don’t need to switch to your phone or tablet’s camera app — simply scan the QR code from the Nest app.

If you have a Dropcam Pro, you’ll be asked to enter in the serial number from the back of the camera. The serial number begins with 308cfb. Plug your camera in using the included USB power adapter before entering the serial number.
If the QR code isn’t working
If your phone or tablet is having trouble scanning the QR code, tap Continue without scanning. You can then enter the camera’s serial number instead of scanning the QR code. You can find the 12-digit serial number on the back of the camera, next to the QR code. Plug your camera in using the included USB power adapter before entering the serial number.

If you’re setting up a Nest Cam, you’ll also need to enter the 6-digit Entry key. The Entry key is also next to the QR code.

Before continuing on to the next step, make sure you have your Wi-Fi network password in hand and that your camera’s power cable is able to reach a power outlet. In the Nest app, tap Next to continue.
4. Pick a name for your camera that matches where your camera will be placed

Choose a pre-set location or create a custom location by selecting Custom at the bottom. The Nest app will use the location you choose to tell you where alerts are happening and organize your devices in your app.
5. Plug in your camera

Use the included power cable and adapter to plug your camera into a household power outlet.

Note: If you typed your camera’s serial number in step 3, your camera will already be plugged in.

After your camera is plugged in, its LED will turn blue to let you know the camera is getting power. In the Nest app, tap Next to continue.
6. Connect to Wi-Fi

Your camera will scan for nearby Wi-Fi networks automatically. Wait a moment for the list of Wi-Fi networks to appear, then choose the Wi-Fi network you’d like your camera to use. You may also be asked to enter the Wi-Fi password.

Important: Be sure to connect only to a wireless network that you trust.

It can take a little while to find and connect to your Wi-Fi network. If you don’t see your Wi-Fi network or your camera fails to connect, see the following article for some troubleshooting help:
Which Wi-Fi network should your Nest Cam Outdoor user?

- Network 1
- Network 2
- Network 3
- Network 4
- Network 5
- Network 6
7. Finish setup

You’re almost ready to mount your camera. It’s now online and part of your Nest Account.
8. Check your camera’s video stream

Now that your camera is connected to Wi-Fi, the app will help you check that your camera can stream video.

Nest Cam Indoor: You’ll also see an option to get notifications about activity.

Nest Cam Outdoor: You’ll see a screen that tells you to unplug your camera and get ready to take it outside. After the camera’s mounted, the Nest app will let you choose whether to get notifications about activity.
9. Mount your camera

Both Nest Cam Indoor and Nest Cam Outdoor are designed for DIY installation, but each is mounted differently.
Before you get started

1. Make sure you’ve set up your Nest Cam Outdoor with the Nest app before you mount it. This article picks up where that one left off.

2. If you haven’t selected a spot to put your camera yet, here are some tips to help you decide.
Where to put Nest Cam so it keeps an eye on what you want

How to protect your Nest Cam and its video from theft

3. Walk over to that spot with your phone or tablet (but not your camera yet), and see whether you can get a Wi-Fi signal on your device. This will give you a general idea about Wi-Fi in that area. If there’s no signal at all, you’ll need to find another spot.

4. Think about the path of the power cable on its way to the outlet. We’ve included cable clips that can attach it to walls, eaves, and other surfaces. The clips keep the cable secure and give it a cleaner look.

5. Direct sunlight can cause glare and heat up your camera beyond the recommended 104°F (40°C). Look for a shaded spot such as an eave or overhang to install your camera. Also be sure to review the Safety Guidelines for mounting your camera.

What you’ll need

Many of the items you’ll need are included in the box: mounting magnet, camera wall plate, adapter wall plate, cable clips to secure your cable, wall screws, and even wall anchors for hard surfaces like brick or stone.

To install the wall plate and cable clips, you’ll need a Philips screwdriver and a drill with a 3/32” bit.

If you’ll be using the wall anchors, you’ll also need a 7/32” masonry drill bit and a hammer.

Options for plugging in your camera

You’ll need an outlet for powering your camera so it can stream video 24/7 and send alerts. The easiest option is to plug it into an outdoor outlet. You might want to install a lockable “while in use” cover over the outlet to prevent your camera from being unplugged.
Important: Check the building codes where you live to make sure your installation is safe.

If you don’t have an outdoor outlet, you can use a light socket adapter, which converts a porch or landscaping light into a power outlet.

Or, route the flat USB cable through a hole in your home’s exterior wall. A local Nest Pro installer can help you do this safely and professionally. Before drilling the hole, make sure your camera can stream video from the location you chose. Keep in mind that the Nest Pro will need to use a 7/8” bit, and will need to identify any in-wall pipes and wiring before drilling.

The total power cable length is 25 ft (7.5m).
Learn about your camera’s mounting magnet

Nest Cam Outdoor’s versatile mounting magnet helps you point your camera exactly where you want.

The back of Nest Cam Outdoor attaches magnetically to the double-sided magnet mount. This lets you mount your camera two ways: you can stick the camera and its mounting magnet to a magnetic surface like a galvanized steel gutter, or you can install the included metal wall plate on a non-metal surface and stick the camera with its mounting magnet to the plate.

Then you can twist and turn the camera on the mounting magnet to get the view you want. We designed it with a wide range of motion.

If you end up installing your camera upside down, such as under an eave, you can rotate your camera on the mounting magnet so that it’s right side up. Or if the camera needs to stay upside down, for example if you’re running the cable to an outlet above the camera, you can leave your camera as it is and flip the video right side up with the Nest app.

Mounting your camera

Now that you’ve prepared your supplies, learned how your camera works with its mounting magnet, and decided where you want to put it, it’s time to mount your camera.

You have two options for installing your Nest Cam Outdoor. Both are detailed in the sections below.
Install the wall plate and mount your camera on brick, wood, or other non-metal surface

Attach your camera to a metal surface using the magnet

How to install the wall plate and mount your camera on brick, wood, or other non-metal surface

If you don’t have a metal surface that the mounting magnet can adhere to, you can install the camera’s metal wall plate. Then, you can stick your Nest Cam and its mounting magnet to the plate and rotate your camera to get the image you want.

1. Plug in the power cable and adapter

Make sure there’s enough length from the outlet to the camera. Temporarily run the cable along the path you’ve planned for it, including eaves and any right-angle bends along walls.

2. Check Wi-Fi coverage with your camera

Hold your camera up where you want to install it, and view the video stream with the Nest app.

If the camera can’t connect to Wi-Fi, or if the video stream is interrupted, you might need to pick another location where the signal is stronger. Even a few inches can make a difference. See more Wi-Fi troubleshooting suggestions in the following article.

Troubleshooting when Nest Cam disconnects or is offline in the Nest app >

If you need to install your camera beyond the range of your
3. Install the wall plate

Once you've made sure your camera can stream video from the spot you've chosen, it's time to install the camera's wall plate.

Remove the protective sticker and backing foam from the wall plate.

We recommend you first drill pilot holes with a 3/32” bit, and then attach the wall plate with the screws.

If the wall is made of a material like brick or stone, you may need to use the included wall anchors. Use a 7/32” masonry bit to drill holes for the anchors. Gently tap each anchor into the wall with a hammer until it's flush with the surface. Then attach the wall plate with the screws.

4. Attach camera to wall plate

Once the plate is secure, attach the mounting magnet to the wall plate. Then attach Nest Cam to the mounting magnet and aim it where you like.

Now you can remove the sticker from your Nest Cam's lens; it's only there for protection during shipping and installation.

You can check your camera's video stream in the Nest app to fine-tune its position.

5. Secure the cable

Next, you'll need to secure the power adapter and cable. Don't skip this step, which makes it harder for your camera to be accidentally dislodged or tampered with.

How to attach your camera to a metal surface using the magnet
You can securely attach your camera to a metal surface made of steel or iron. Keep in mind, the mounting magnet won’t stick to other metals like aluminum or copper.

1. Plug in the power cable and adapter

Make sure there’s enough length from the outlet to the camera.

Temporarily run the cable along the path you’ve planned for it, including eaves and any right-angle bends along walls.

2. Attach camera

Attach the mounting magnet to the back of the camera, and place the other side on the metal surface.

Since the magnetic power of different metal surfaces can vary, test that the grip is strong enough to securely hold your camera.

If you try to attach your camera to a curved surface, like a light pole, the magnet won’t be able to make full contact and it might not hold. So we recommend attaching it to a flat spot on the metal surface.

3. Check Wi-Fi coverage with your camera
If the camera can’t connect to Wi-Fi, or if the video stream is interrupted, you might need to pick another location where the signal is stronger. Even a few inches can make a difference. See more Wi-Fi troubleshooting suggestions in the following article.

Troubleshooting when Nest Cam disconnects or is offline in the Nest app>

If you need to install your camera beyond the range of your existing network, you can try using a Wi-Fi extender.

If you haven’t done so yet, remove the sticker from your Nest Cam’s lens; it’s only there for protection during shipping and installation.

4. Secure the cable

Once you’ve made sure your camera can stream video from its location, you’ll need to secure the power adapter and cable. Don’t skip this step, which makes it harder for your camera to be accidentally dislodged or tampered with.

How to secure your camera’s power adapter and cable

However you mounted your camera, you’ll need to attach your power adapter and cable to a wall or other surface to keep it secure. This also gives everything a tidy look.

1. Install the first cable clip

To install the clips, insert the cable into the clip, and screw the clip into the wall or other surface.

Install the first clip within 6 inches (15cm) of your camera. This can help secure your camera’s position and prevent damage in the unlikely event your camera’s dislodged from its magnetic mount.

If you’re using the included wall anchors, drill anchor holes with a 7/32” masonry bit. Gently tap the anchors into the holes with a hammer, then screw the clips into the anchors.
2. Install the power adapter

We recommend installing the adapter at least 18 inches (50 cm) above the ground in case of flooding or deep snow. We included an adapter wall plate for this purpose.

Place the adapter plate with the flat side facing the wall. Drill a hole and insert a wall anchor if needed. Use one of the screws to mount the plate.

Then snap the adapter on.

3. Install the rest of the cable clips

Install the second cable clip close to where the USB ring connects to the power adapter.

Install the third clip close to the outlet so that the cable will be harder to unplug.

Install as many of the other clips as you need to route the cable from your camera to the outlet.

You can paint the power cord and the cable clips to match your home so they blend in and are harder to spot. Don’t paint the power adapter or the camera itself.

Next steps

Now that your camera is mounted, here are some settings to explore, and some things you might not already know about your camera.

- Alerts: Your camera can alert you when it detects motion, sound or both. Select what kind of notifications you’d like to get from your camera.
• **Sharing:** If you want, you can have family members get the same alerts you do, and view the camera’s video stream. You can also share your camera publicly or with an optional password. [Share your video](#) with as many or as few people as you like.

• **Bandwidth and image quality:** By default, the Nest app will automatically set your camera’s image quality for you. You can [change your camera’s image quality](#) at any time with the Nest app. Experiment with different settings to find the one that works best with your internet connection.

• **Nest Aware:** If you’re not already a subscriber, learn about [what you get with a Nest Aware subscription](#) — including more intelligent alerts and a 10-day or 30-day video history stored in the cloud.