signal to your wireless device, wherever you are in your home. In general, the signal gets weaker the farther you are from your router, so it's important to install it in a central location, so you're never very far from it. If possible, you should place the Wi-Fi router on a table or a shelf. The ideal position is half-way between the floor and the ceiling.

The physical features of your house may also be contributing to the problem. For example, certain materials used in your interior walls can reduce the strength of your signal. Most common construction materials, such as wood or drywall, won't cause a problem, but if your router is located near walls made from concrete or brick, these materials can block some — or all — of your Wi-Fi signal.

Metal surfaces can also weaken your Wi-Fi signal, so placing your router in a kitch-en or laundry room that has a lot of metal appliances is not a good idea either.

Finally, one of the most obstructive materials for Wi-Fi signal is mirror. If you have a sizeable mirror near your Wi-Fi router, it may negatively impact Wi-Fi performance.

If your router is located in a room with any of these characteristics, try moving it to a different room in your house to see if your Wi-Fi performance improves.

Check for interference from other electronic devices

Another factor that can cause poor performance is interference from other electronic devices. Certain non-Wi-Fi devices — like baby monitors, Bluetooth devices, microwave ovens, and cordless phones — may share the same frequency as your Wi-Fi router. As a result, when these devices are in use, you may notice your Wi-Fi performance getting worse.

The mostly likely source of interference is other Wi-Fi routers located nearby. There's a good chance that one or more of your neighbors has a Wi-Fi router that operates on the same frequency as yours. In this case, the signal coming from your neighbor's router may be interfering with the signal from your router, and that may be contributing to the connection and performance problems you are experiencing.

If you think that interference from nearby routers is affecting your Wi-Fi network, contact your service provider for technical support. They can help you reconfigure your router to limit the impact of nearby routers and help you get your Wi-Fi per-forming the way it should be.

Another option is to purchase a simple repeater or a mesh Wi-Fi system. Please beware, however, that not all Wi-Fi enhancement solutions are created equally. The ideal approach is to call your service provider to see if they offer a product specifi-cally designed to enhance the coverage of your Wi-Fi network.

Check for outdated client devices

While your Wi-Fi router is an important part of the Wi-Fi network, the wireless devices that you use to connect to the Internet also impact the quality of your Wi-Fi experience. As with the router, older devices are going to have outdated technology, resulting in slower connection speeds. Talk with your service provider to see if you can upgrade to a newer device, such as a smart phone or tablet.