

# MeshCore Repeater Name and Identity

Every MeshCore repeater broadcasts an identity advertisement that makes it visible to the network. Setting a meaningful name and position makes your repeater useful to the wider community.

## Setting a Repeater Name

The repeater name appears in client apps when users are selecting which repeaters to contact or route through. Use a consistent naming convention for community repeaters:

- **Geographic convention** - Name by location: `W5ABC-Mt-Wilson`, `K6XYZ-Oakland-Hills`, `WA7QRS-Snoqualmie`
- **Grid square convention** - Used by some communities: `DM04-Repeater-1`
- **Descriptive** - Simple but clear: `Downtown-SF-Roof`, `I-5-Corridor-N`

*Note:* Call signs in these examples are just a human naming convention. MeshCore devices operate under FCC Part 15 (license-free) on 902-928 MHz, not Part 97 amateur rules - no station ID is required, and a call sign in the name does not make the device an amateur-radio station.

Configure via the MeshCore app or serial console:

```
set name MyRepeaterName
```

The node name maximum length is 24 bytes if a location is set, 32 bytes otherwise (the limit is measured in bytes, and emoji or accented characters use more than one byte each). Plain ASCII names of roughly 24 characters or fewer are safe. As a separate style suggestion, keeping names short also improves display readability across client apps.

## Setting Geographic Position

Position data is included in flood advertisements, making your repeater visible on network maps and helping operators understand coverage. Configure with decimal degrees:

```
set lat 37.7749
set lon -122.4194
```

MeshCore position advertisements use latitude and longitude only; there is no altitude setting in the CLI. Use your deployment coordinates, not your home address - the position is broadcast to the entire network.

# Advertisement Configuration

Control how often your repeater sends its flood advertisement:

```
set flood.advert.interval 12
```

The flood advert interval is specified in hours (range 3-168), with a repeater default of 12. The 12-hour default is appropriate for stable, permanent deployments. To verify a repeater is appearing in client apps during initial deployment, temporarily lower the flood interval (for example to 3 hours) and then return it to 12 for steady-state operation to minimize network load. A separate zero-hop advert interval, `set advert.interval <minutes>` (60-240 minutes), controls only the local zero-hop advert.

## Flood vs Local Advertisement

MeshCore adverts are sent as one of two types - there is no per-advert hop-count setting. To send a flood (multi-hop) advert that other repeaters propagate across the network, run:

```
advert
```

`advert.zerohop` - sends a zero-hop advert visible only to nodes in direct radio range (local-only).

`advert` - sends a flood advert that propagates through the mesh, making the repeater discoverable to distant nodes; its propagation depth is limited by `flood.max` (range 0-64, default 64), not by a per-advert hop count. Use flood adverts (`advert`) for public community repeaters; use zero-hop adverts (`advert.zerohop`) for private or testing nodes.

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