

Coverage Planning Tools Overview

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Before deploying hardware, use these tools to estimate coverage, find line-of-sight paths, and identify gaps in your network. Most are free and browser-based.

MeshCore-Specific Tools

Tool	URL	What It Does
NoDakMesh Node Planner	nodakmesh.org/tools/node-planner	Satellite + topographic map with line-of-sight analysis and live MeshCore node visibility. Best starting point for North American planning.
MeshCore Live Map	map.meshcore.io	Live worldwide visualization of MeshCore nodes that have reported their location.

Meshtastic Tools

Tool	URL	What It Does
Meshtastic Site Planner	site.meshtastic.org	Estimates theoretical RF coverage from a location using terrain data. Enter coordinates and antenna height.
Meshtastic World Map	meshmap.net	Real-time map of Meshtastic nodes worldwide that report to the public MQTT broker.

General RF Planning Tools

Tool	URL	What It Does
HeyWhatsThat	heywhatsthat.com	Radio horizon visualization using terrain elevation data. Enter a location and see what is visible from that point.
Radio Mobile Online	radiomobileonline.pe1mew.nl	Advanced RF propagation modeling with configurable transmit power, antenna gain, and receiver sensitivity. Supports point-to-point and coverage area analysis.
SCADACore RF Line-of-Sight	scadacore.com	RF line-of-sight tool for quick path analysis between two coordinates.

Planning Workflow

1. **Check existing nodes:** Start with map.meshcore.io or meshmap.net to see what already exists near your target area.
2. **Identify candidate sites:** Use heywhatsthat.com to find hilltops, buildings, or towers with broad radio horizons.
3. **Model the path:** Use Radio Mobile or the NoDakMesh node planner to estimate signal strength on key links.
4. **Validate with MeshMapper:** After deployment, use MeshMapper wardriving to map actual measured coverage (see [MeshMapper Wardriving Guide](#)).

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