

# What is DNS?

One of the steps needed in order to set up one instance is for the subscriber to add a new DNS record to their domain.

## What is DNS?

The Domain Name System (DNS) is the address book of the Internet. We access information online through domain names, like cloud68.co or mastodon.social. While web browsers interact through Internet Protocol (IP) addresses. DNS translates domain names to IP addresses, so browsers can load Internet resources.

Each device connected to the Internet has a unique IP address, which other machines use to find the device. DNS servers eliminate the need for humans to memorize IP addresses such as 192.168.1.1.

## How does DNS work?

The process of DNS resolution involves converting a hostname (such as `www.example.com`) into a computer-friendly IP address (such as `192.168.1.1`). An IP address is given to each device on the Internet, and that address is necessary to find the appropriate Internet device - like a street address is used to find a particular home. When a user wants to load a webpage, a translation must occur between what a user types into their web browser (`example.com`) and the machine-friendly address necessary to locate the `example.com` webpage.

## What is a DNS record?

DNS records (aka zone files) are instructions that live in authoritative DNS servers and provide information about a domain including what IP address is associated with that domain and how to handle requests for that domain. These records consist of a series of text files written in what is known as DNS syntax. DNS syntax is just a string of characters used as commands that tell the DNS server what to do. All DNS records also have a 'TTL', which stands for time-to-live, and indicates how often a DNS server will refresh that record.

How can I add a new DNS record?

Different domain registrars provide different way for their clients to interact with the DNS services they provide. The best way to find the most relevant guide for your domain reseller is to search "the name of your domain reseller" add DNS record.

We have a small [list](#) of major providers, from which you can follow the guides made by us.

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