

Re: DHCP & DNS

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- *From:* "Jacques B." <jjrboucher@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 21 Oct 2007 21:20:31 -0400
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On 10/21/07, Karl Larsen <k5di@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Jacques B. wrote:

On 10/21/07, Frank Cox <theatre@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Sun, 21 Oct 2007 16:48:42 -0600
Karl Larsen <k5di@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

216.31.109.91 k5di.com

k5di.com doesn't belong to you. In fact, it doesn't appear to belong to anyone at this moment.

I'm not sure what kinds of problems can be caused by using a .com domain name when it's not yours, but I don't think it can lead to anything good.

You would be well advised to either register k5di.com (which doesn't have to be expensive) or use another domain name that you do own, or simply stick with localhost.localdomain

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It doesn't cause any problems to use it in one's host file as long as there isn't a site also by that domain name that you wish to visit.

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I've created some false domain names for a classroom exercise and then had the students populate their /etc/hosts file accordingly so that when I had them navigate to the domain name in question they ended up on a local server on our network.

In Karl's case when he puts that domain name in his address bar it navigates to the IP he has there. The only consequence would be if that domain name was registered. And then the impact would be to Karl only. He would not be able to navigate to it because your machine uses /etc/hosts to resolve domain names first. If not in there it goes out to your DNS server. So Karl's PC would resolve that domain to the IP he has hence it would navigate to that IP, not to the IP for the publicly registered domain by the same name.

I've modified my hosts file and put in the IP of my router and then put in router for the domain name. Now when I enter router in my address bar I navigate to my router. Likewise at work I did the same for our email server. I put in its IP and "mail" for the domain name. So I simply have to put mail in the address bar to navigate to my webmail server.

Jacques B.

Thank you.

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Karl F. Larsen, AKA K5DI
Linux User
#450462 <http://counter.li.org>.

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Welcome. It's a convenient way to provide a website which does not have a domain name with a domain name unique to your local machine as you've done. Or if instead of writing a very long domain name you can do as you've done and resolve the IP for that domain name to something shorter. Of course using bookmarks can provide similar convenience. But modifying one's host file can be convenient. Try it for your router/gateway. Put its IP in your host file and then provide it "router" as a domain name. Then simply enter "router" in your browser's address bar and voilà, you've navigated to your router without the fuss of using its IP.

Sorry Steve, drifted a bit there. Are you simply asking if the

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machines can ping each other? If that is your question, yes they can in your scenario seeing they are getting an IP and subnet mask from your DHCP server and hence on the same subnet.

Or are you asking if there is a way to have one machine be able to ping the other without having to know its IP seeing it is dynamic? My suggestion there would be to have your DHCP server assign static IPs (if it has that feature). In absence of that feature manually configure the static IP/subnet mask of the machines (ensuring it's the same subnet as your router/gateway).

Also where you mention the host file, are you saying that both machines are web servers with a domain name?

Jacques B.

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