

# Re: Name resolution for local names using DHCP

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  - *Date:* Mon, 17 Dec 2007 21:41:49 GMT
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Charles Russell wrote:

Robert Harris wrote:

Charles Russell wrote:

[snip]

I know I'm jumping in late, but static addresses are not a terribly good idea – they don't scale in the sense that if you add another computer to a network of n machines, then you have to change the /etc/hosts file of all n existing machines.

1. Are you sure that your router can't do hostname to IP address translations? It may just be that it has a wrong idea of your domain names. If the host name of another computer is, say, machine, try to resolve (e.g. with the command hosts):

machine.

(the following dot will stop your own computer appending its own idea of the domain name)

Otherwise, look at the router's idea of the domain name and try to resolve:

machine.domain.name.

(if the domain name is domain.name)

Of course that may not work either, but it will test whether your router can resolve local hostnames.

2. Run avahi. Then each machine will advertise its own hostname and IP address and you will be able to resolve say, machine, as machine.local

Robert

## Re: Name resolution for local names using DHCP

Thanks. I haven't time at the moment to experiment, but in the meanwhile I have a question about the domain name. My network was originally set up as a Windows XP network, with workgroup name "MSHOME", and later I added a Linux box and a MacOSX box, both of which got handled automatically by DHCP with no further router configuration. (Everything works except for local name resolution, and even that works with samba clients. MacOSX and Linux behave identically.) As far as I know, I don't have a named "domain", unless that is the same as the Windows network workgroup.

With Linux, dhcpd (I think) puts the line "search Belkin" into resolv.conf. I have no idea what that is for.

That means that your Linux machine will search for machine.Belkin when you ask it to search for machine (the resolv.conf man page tells a fuller story). The name "Belkin" probably comes from your router; there will be a file somewhere which on my (Debian) system is /var/log/dhcp3/dhclient.eth0.leases which lists the parameters that your router has sent.

Tell your router that your domain name is "local" (without the quotes) and, after you have had a dhcp response from your router, make sure that your /etc/resolv.conf contains the line: "search local".

Domain is nothing to do with workgroup name; it is generally like "bellsouth.net" (if the fully qualified name of your computer is "mycomputer.bellsouth.net").

Robert

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