

Linux / UNIX: DNS Lookup

Command

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How do I perform dns lookup under Linux or UNIX or Apple OS X operating systems without using 3rd party web sites for troubleshooting DNS usage?

You can use any one of the following dns lookup utility under Linux / UNIX. You can skip all 3rd party websites and use the following to debug your dns servers and lookup issues:

[a] **host command** – DNS lookup utility.

[b] **dig command** – DNS lookup utility.

Both commands will allow you to get answer to various dns queries such as the IP address (A), mail exchanges (MX), name servers (NS), text annotations (TXT), or ANY (all) type.

host DNS Lookup Examples

[host command](#) is a simple utility for performing DNS lookups. It is normally used to convert names to IP addresses and vice versa. When no arguments or options are given, host command displays a short summary of its command line arguments and options. The syntax is as follows:

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