Add DNS Server

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Normally we just add the IP Address, Subnet Mask and Gateway to the ifcfg-eth0 file, as that is all we need. But if it is required that we need to update the OS, or add a piece of software (htop for example) then we may need to add the DNS settings.

While this was written with CentOs 6/7 in mind, it may work for other Linux distributions.

There are two ways this can be done.

Method 1

Use "PEERDNS=no". This option will prevent /etc/resolv.conf from being modified by a DHCP server. So instead of using DHCP-provided DNS, you can specify any arbitrary DNS servers you want to use in /etc/resolv.conf.

The configuration file for your network interface (e.g., eth0) looks like the following.

sudo vi /etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/ifcfg-eth0

DEVICE=eth0 BOOTPROTO=dhcp ONBOOT=yes **PEERDNS=no**

Then, add static DNS to /etc/resolv.conf

sudo vi /etc/resolv.conf

nameserver 8.8.8.8 nameserver 8.8.4.4

Method 2

Alternatively, you can specify DNS servers directly in the interface configuration file, instead of modifying /etc/resolv.conf yourself. That is:

sudo vi /etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/ifcfg-eth0

DEVICE=eth0 BOOTPROTO=dhcp ONBOOT=yes DNS1=8.8.8.8 DNS2=8.8.4.4

The DNS servers specified with "DNS1/DNS2" directives will then automatically be added to /etc/resolv.conf when the interface is activated. So there is no need to modify /etc/resolv.conf yourself.

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