

Tech Training: Network DNS

DNS stands for Domain Name System. It is code that runs on a Windows server responsible for translating domain names (gmail.com, facebook.com, taylor.edu) into the IP Address of the server which hosts the domain. While connecting with a network, a computer contacts the DNS server which sends a copy of its cross reference list. The computer uses the list, called a DNS Cache, throughout the session.

Computers booted on one network and then moved to another network without restarting might have an incomplete DNS cache. Refreshing the cache often solves the issue:

- Command
- IpConfig /flushdns (not case-sensitive)

In the same way that Taylor's network requires default settings for DHCP, it also requires default settings for DNS. If the operating system is not configured to accept DHCP instructions, it will not display a Taylor (10.) IP address. If the operating system is not configured to accept DNS instructions, it will work on Taylor's network but will have difficulty reaching websites.

To configure Windows to automatically accept DNS settings:

- Start > View Network Connections
- Right-click on the appropriate network connection > Properties
- Double-click Internet Protocol Version 4 (TCP/IPv4)
- Set both DHCP and DNS to Obtain automatically