

DHCP: DYNAMIC HOST CONFIGURATION PROTOCOL

A protocol for assigning dynamic IP addresses to devices on a network. When a device attempts to connect to a network with DHCP capability, it's automatically assigned an IP address to complete the connection. A different IP address may be assigned the each time the device makes a connection to the network, depending on network activity.

DNS: DOMAIN NAME SYSTEM

This system is used to translate Internet domain and host names to IP addresses. DNS automatically converts the names entered in a Web browser to the IP addresses that correspond with the host names.

IP ADDRESS: INTERNET PROTOCOL ADDRESS

A numerical address assigned to a computer or device on a TCP/IP network. Networks that use the TCP/IP protocol use this address to route messages to the correct destination. An IP address is written as four numbers separated by periods. 192.168.1.10 is a valid IP address.

MAC ADDRESS: A MEDIA ACCESS CONTROL ADDRESS

A unique identifier assigned to a device designed to interface with a network. These are usually assigned by the maker and are stored in the device's hardware or read-only memory. This is the physical address or identifier of the device and does not change.

TCP/IP: TRANSMISSION CONTROL PROTOCOL/ INTERNET PROTOCOL

A group of communications protocols used to connect hosts on the Internet, the two main ones being TCP and IP. TCP/IP is used by the Internet, making it the standard for transmitting data over networks.

VNC: VIRTUAL NETWORK COMPUTING

VNC is used to display the screen of one computer on another and allow this computer to actually control the host computer as if the user were accessing it directly. The host computer must be running VNC server software and the connecting computer must have compatible VNC viewer software installed. VNC requires that both computers be connected via the same network to function.