Configure OpenDNS on Windows 11, MacOS, and Linux

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Introduction

This document describes how to configure OpenDNS DNS server addresses on Windows 11, macOS, and Linux.

Prerequisites

Requirements

- Administrative access on the endpoint (Windows, macOS, or Linux)
- Network connectivity to the internet
- The OpenDNS resolver IP addresses:
  - 208.67.222.222
  - 208.67.220.220

Optional (FamilyShield):

- 208.67.222.123

- 208.67.220.123

Configure OpenDNS on Windows 11

1. Navigate to **Settings > Network & internet**.
2. Select the **active connection**:
    - Wi-Fi, then select the **connected network**, or **Ethernet**.
3. Under **DNS server assignment**, click **Edit**.
4. Select **Manual**.
5. Enable **IPv4**.
6. Enter these **DNS servers**:
    - Preferred DNS: 208.67.222.222
    - Alternate DNS: 208.67.220.220
7. Click **Save**.

Configure OpenDNS on MacOS

1. Navigate to **System Settings > Network.**
2. Select the **active network interface** (for example, Wi-Fi or Ethernet).
3. Click **Details**.
4. Select **DNS**.
5. Under **DNS Servers**, add:
    - 208.67.222.222
    - 208.67.220.220
6. Click **OK**, then click **Apply**.

Configure OpenDNS on Linux

Option 1. Configure DNS with NetworkManager (GUI)

1. Open the **network settings** for the active connection.
2. Edit the **IPv4 DNS** settings for the connection.
3. Set **DNS servers** to:
    - 208.67.222.222
    - 208.67.220.220
4. Save the **connection changes** and reconnect.

Option 2. Configure DNS with NetworkManager (nmcli)

1. Identify the connection name:
    - Run the **nmcli connection show** command.
2. Set **DNS servers** on the connection:
    - Run the **nmcli connection modify** command to set IPv4 DNS to 208.67.222.222 208.67.220.220.
3. Reconnect the connection:
    - Disconnect and reconnect the **NetworkManager connection**.



Note: The exact connection name and interface varies by distribution.

Option 3. Configure DNS with systemd-resolved (resolvectl)

If the distribution uses systemd-resolved, set DNS per-interface and verify settings with resolvectl.

Configure the **DNS servers** for the active interface to:

- 208.67.222.222
- 208.67.220.220



Note: Configuration methods vary by distribution and whether DNS is managed by NetworkManager, systemd-networkd, or another service.

Verify DNS Resolution

After configuration, verify DNS queries resolve and that the configured resolvers are in use.

- On Windows, verify DNS server assignment in the active adapter settings.
- On macOS, verify DNS servers appear under the active interface DNS settings.
- On Linux, verify the DNS servers for the active interface with the system resolver status.

If name resolution does not change immediately, clear the local DNS cache (method varies by operating system).

Troubleshooting

- If DNS servers revert after reboot, verify whether DNS is enforced by:
    - VPN software
    - Mobile device management (MDM) profiles
    - Security software

    - DHCP options from the router (common if DNS is being set on the router instead of the endpoint)
- If a browser uses DNS-over-HTTPS (DoH), it can bypass OS-level DNS settings. Verify browser DNS/DoH configuration if results do not match expectations.