



Managing Hosts


This chapter explains how to configure some of the more advanced DNS zone and server parameters using the Cisco CNS Network Registrar Web UI and CLI. Before you proceed with the concepts in this chapter, read [Chapter 14, “Managing Zones,”](#) which explains how to set up the basic properties of a primary and secondary DNS server and its zones.

Managing Hosts in Zones

You can manage the resource records (RRs) for a host by configuring the host record rather than the individual RR. When you define a host, an Address (A) record is created automatically for it. If the reverse zone for the host exists, the associated Pointer (PTR) can also be created automatically.

Adding Address, Canonical Name, and Mail Exchanger Records

In the local cluster Web UI, adding a host adds its A record and, if you wish, its PTR record for the reverse zone, if it exists. By accessing the RRs for the host’s zone, you can add Canonical Name (CNAME), Mail Exchanger (MX), and additional A records:

-
- Step 1** Click **Host**, then **Zones** to open the List Zones page.
 - Step 2** Click the name of the zone where you want to add host records to open the List/Add Hosts for Zone page.
 - Step 3** Enter the name of the host and its IP address.
 - Step 4** If you want to create a corresponding Pointer (PTR) record, click a check mark in the Create PTR Records? box.
 - Step 5** Click **Add Host**.
 - Step 6** Click **DNS**, then **Zones** to open the List/Add Zones page.
 - Step 7** Click the View icon () in the Configuration RRs column next to the name of the zone for which you want to add CNAME, MX, and possibly additional A records. This opens the List/Add Static Resource Records for Zone page:
 - a. For a CNAME record, add the alias hostname in the Name field, click **CNAME** in the Type list, add the canonical name of the host in the Data field, then click **Add Resource Record**. Note that the DNS specification prohibits the existence of a CNAME record with the same name as another RR.

- b. For an MX record, add the origin hostname in the Name field, click **MX** in the Type list, add the integer preference value, a space, and the domain name of the mail exchanger for the origin host in the Data field, then click **Add Resource Record**.
- c. For an additional A record, add a hostname in the Name field, click **A** in the Type drop-down list, add an IP address for the host in the Data field, then click **Add Resource Record**.

Step 8 Reload the DNS server if you want these records to become active server records.

In the CLI:

- To create a zone's A records, aliases, and PTR records for existing reverse zones in a single operation, use **zone name addHost hostname address alias [alias]** for each host.
- To list the created zones, use **zone name listHosts**.
- To add CNAME records, use **zone name addRR alias CNAME canonical**.
- To add MX records, use **zone name addRR hostname MX preference mxname**.

Editing Hosts

To edit a host in the local cluster Web UI:

- Step 1** Click **Host**. If you get the List Zones page, click a zone name to open the List/Add Hosts in Zone page. If there is only one zone, this immediately opens this page.
 - Step 2** Choose the name of the host you want to edit. This opens the Edit Host page.
 - Step 3** You can edit the hostname or its IP address, or you can delete the host using the Delete icon (🗑️).
 - Step 4** Click **Modify Host**.
-

In the CLI, you have to remove the host using **zone name removeHost**, and re-add it using **zone name addHost**.

Removing Hosts

Removing a host removes only the A resource records for that host.

In the local cluster Web UI, on the List/Add Hosts in Zone page (see the “[Editing Hosts](#)” section for the two possible ways to get there), click the Delete icon (🗑️) next to the host you want to remove, then confirm the deletion. You can also delete addresses for hosts on the Add Host and Edit Host page.

In the CLI, use **zone name removeRR hostname A**, then confirm the removal using **zone name listHosts**.