Flush or Clear a DNS Cache on Computers and Servers

Contents

Introduction

This document describes how to flush or clear the DNS cache on computers and servers.

Background Information

The commands need to be run at the command prompt with administrator privileges.

Please add any additions, corrections, updates or suggestions to the comments on this article to better help the community.

Clear the DNS Cache on a Computer

Follow the instructions for your operating system.

Windows 7 and Earlier

1. Click the **Start** Menu.
2. Navigate to **All Programs**.
3. Choose **Accessories** and right-click **Command Prompt**.
4. Choose **Run as Administrator**.
5. Run this command in the command line and then press **enter**: **ipconfig /flushdns**

Windows 8

1. Windows Key or hover your mouse over the bottom left corner and click the **Windows Icon**.
2. Type **Command Prompt**.

3. Right-click the application and select **Run as Administrator**
4. Run this command in the command line and then press **enter**: **ipconfig /flushdns**

OS X 10.4 Tiger

1. Click the **Terminal** icon in the dock or in **Finder** under **Application/Utilities/Terminal**.
2. Run this command in the command line and then press **enter**: **lookupd -flushcache**

OS X 10.5 and 10.6 Leopard

1. Click the **Terminal** icon in the dock or in **Finder** under **Application/Utilities/Terminal**.
2. Run this command in the command line and press **enter**: **dscacheutil -flushcache**

OS X 10.7 and 10.8 Lion

1. Click the **Terminal** icon in the dock or in **Finder** under **Application/Utilities/Terminal**.

   sudo killall -HUP mDNSResponder

OS X 10.9 and 10.10

1. Click the **Terminal** icon in the dock or in **Finder** under **Application/Utilities/Terminal**.

   dscacheutil -flushcache;sudo killall -HUP mDNSResponder

Linux (Most Distributions)

1. **sudo /etc/init.d/nscd restart**

   or

   sudo /etc/init.d/nscd restart

Ubuntu Linux

1. Open a terminal window.
2. Run this command in the command line and then press **enter**: **sudo service network-manager restart**

Clear the DNS Cache on Browsers

If you have recently set up your filtering, or just changed a setting, a cache clear can be necessary before you see your filtering take effect.

This table provides instructions for clearing the DNS cache within common Internet browsers.

Browser	Steps to clear the DNS Cache
Internet Explorer 8 and Higher (Windows)	1. Navigate to the **History** menu, select **Delete Browsing History**, check all boxes (except passwords if desired), and click **Delete**.

Mozilla Firefox (Windows)	1. Click **Firefox** at the top left of your browser, navigate to the **History** menu, select **Clear Recent History** and check all boxes. 2. Under **Time range to clear** select **Everything** (except passwords if desired) and click **Clear Now**.
Apple Safari (Windows)	1. Expand the **Cog Icon** in the upper right corner and select **Reset Safari**. 2. Check all boxes and click **Reset**.
Apple Safari (Windows)	1. Go to the **Safari** menu, select **Reset Safari**, check all boxes and click **Reset**.
Google Chrome (Windows)	1. Expand the **Wrench Icon** in the upper right corner and select **History** and check all boxes. 2. Under **Clear data for this time period**, select **Everything** (except passwords, if desired) and click **Clear Browsing Data**.
Google Chrome (Mac)	1. Go to the **Chrome** menu, select **Clear Browsing Data** and check all boxes (except passwords if desired). 2. Under **Clear data for this time period**, select **Everything**, and click **Clear Browsing Data**.