How can I request a static IP Address and host name?

Answer

MIT students, faculty or staff with valid Kerberos identities may request a static IP for use in an MIT building.

On this page:

- Step 1. Check whether the hostname is already taken on MITnet.
- Step 2. Request for a static IP address and host name
- Step 3. Seeking help

Step 1. Check whether the hostname is already taken on MITnet.

You can do so by:

1. Submitting a query on an online form
2. Using the hostinfo command on Athena.

For example, to find the IP address for a machine with the host name bitsy and the domain name mit.edu, you could log into Athena, and at the athena% prompt, enter the command

```
athena% hostinfo bitsy.mit.edu
```

If the hostname already exists, you will receive information about the hostname

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desired host:</th>
<th>bitsy.mit.edu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Official name:</td>
<td>bitsy.mit.edu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host address:</td>
<td>18.72.0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host info:</td>
<td>DEC/DECSTATION-5000.25/ULTRIX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 2. Request for a static IP address and host name

Static IPs and host names can be requested in a few ways, depending on where the IP address will be used:

- **On-campus dorm**
- **Fraternity, Sorority, or other Living Group (FSILGs)**
- **Academic and other buildings on campus**
- **Via email**

**On-campus dorm**

If the Static IP address will be used in a dorm by a student, a request should be submitted by filling out the Hostname Request form.

**Fraternity, Sorority, or other Living Group (FSILGs)**

If the Static IP address will be used in a Fraternity, Sorority, or other living group (FSILGs), you should speak with the [Network Contact] for your house to have this created.

**Academic and other buildings on campus**

If the Static IP Address will be used in an Academic building, the Request 1-4 Static IPs form may be used to submit the request.

Note that, among other information, this form asks for a cost object for tracking purposes. As of 2009, IP addresses are no longer charged for; however IS&T will use the cost object and the machine contacts to keep track of the IP addresses. Students should get this information from a contact in their DLC if they do not know it.
Via email

You can also request for IP addresses by sending an email to servicedesk@mit.edu. Be sure to include ALL the following information for each machine that requires an IP address:

- Machine vendor
- Model
- Operating system
- Location
- Machine contact person
- Billing contact person
- Two suggested hostnames
- Institute cost object (account number) for tracking purposes

Information must be complete and submitted in either plain text or Microsoft Excel format.

**Step 3. Seeking help**

If you need help regarding IP addresses, host names, or connecting devices to MITnet, you can contact the IS&T Service Desk.