How do I configure my computer to connect to MITnet via a wired Ethernet connection?

Q: How do I configure my computer to connect to MITnet via a wired Ethernet connection?

Due to the evolving Covid-19 situation, IS&T Service Desk walk-in IT help and repair services will not be offered in the Atlas Service Center until further notice. If you have questions or need assistance, contact the IS&T Service Desk at any time 24/7 at 617-253-1101 or servicedesk@mit.edu.

Ethernet cables are available free of charge from IS&T. You can pick one up in Building E17-106 between 9AM-5PM. You can also get ethernet cables from your dorm's Residential Computing Consultant (RCC).

Context

You are on campus and you have access to a wired Ethernet connection.

Answer

There are a few ways you can configure your computer to connect to MITnet using a wired Ethernet connection:

- Use a dynamically assigned (random) IP address
- Use a dynamically assigned (permanent) IP address reserved for your device and associated with its hostname

Use a dynamically assigned (random) IP address

This is the easiest method and is recommended for most users. See How do I register for DHCP service without an IP address? for instructions. You will be assigned a random IP address each time you connect to MITnet.

Use a dynamically assigned (permanent) IP address reserved for your device and associated with its hostname

Devices will be given a permanently reserved IP address associated with the devices registered hostname. See How do I register for DHCP service with a permanent reserved IP address?? for instructions.

This option is only available for MIT students, faculty or staff with valid Kerberos IDs.

If you choose this option, the reserved IP address will only be assigned while on your home network (i.e. while in the building where you registered). You will be assigned a random IP address if you leave your home network. Multiple registrations for the same device are not permitted.

See Also

- MIT Network Landing Page
- DHCP Service at MIT