

Internet Protocol address (IP address)

[Return to Glossary](#)

An **Internet Protocol address (IP address)** is a logical numeric address that is assigned to every single computer, printer, switch, router or any other device that is part of a TCP/IP-based network.

The IP address is the core component on which the networking architecture is built; no network exists without it. An IP address is a logical address that is used to uniquely identify every node in the network. Because IP addresses are logical, they can change. They are similar to addresses in a town or city because the IP address gives the network node an address so that it can communicate with other nodes or networks, just like mail is sent to friends and relatives.

The numerals in an IP address are divided into 2 parts:

- The network part specifies which networks this address belongs to and
- The host part further pinpoints the exact location.

Source: [Internet Protocol address \(IP address\)](#)

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