

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents 1

Flush nscd dns cache 2

Flush dnsmasq dns cache 2

Flush caching BIND server dns cache 2

[Home](#) > [Faq](#) > [BASH Shell](#)

How To Flush Linux / UNIX DNS Cache

Posted by [Vivek Gite](#) <vivek@nixcraft.com>

Q. I'm on a Dial UP Internet connection under Linux and frequent dial up problem causing dns problems. How do I flush DNS cache under any UNIX / Linux distribution using a shell prompt?

A. Under any Windows version you can use [ipconfig command to flush dns cache](#) [2]. However, Linux (UNIX) is more complex and robust as compare to Windows. Linux can run nscd or BIND or dnsmasq as the name service caching daemon under most Linux distributions. Large and workgroup servers may use BIND / dnsmasq as a dedicated caching server.



Flush nscd dns cache

Nscd caches libc-issued requests to the Name Service. If retrieving NSS data is fairly expensive, nscd is able to speed up consecutive access to the same data dramatically and increase overall system performance. Just restart nscd:

```
$ sudo /etc/init.d/nscd restart
```

OR

```
# service nscd restart
```

Flush dnsmasq dns cache

[dnsmasq is a lightweight DNS](#) [3], TFTP and DHCP server. It is intended to provide coupled DNS and DHCP service to a LAN. Dnsmasq accepts DNS queries and either answers them from a small, local, cache or forwards them to a real, recursive, DNS server. This software is also installed many cheap routers to cache dns queries. Just restart to flush out dns cache:

```
$ sudo /etc/init.d/dnsmasq restart
```

Flush caching BIND server dns cache

A caching BIND server obtains information from another server (a Zone Master) in response to a host query and then saves (caches) the data locally. All you have to do is restart bind to clear its cache:

```
# /etc/init.d/named restart
```

Related: [Windows Vista / XP Flush DNS Cache](#) [2] with ipconfig Command

4000+ howtos and counting! Want to read more Linux / UNIX howtos, tips and tricks? Subscribe to our [daily email](#) newsletter or [weekly newsletter](#) to make sure you don't miss a single tip/tricks. Alternatively, subscribe via [RSS/XML](#) feed.

Article printed from Frequently Asked Questions About Linux / UNIX: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/>

URL to article: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/rhel-debian-ubuntu-flush-clear-dns-cache/>

URLs in this post:

[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/troubleshooting/>

[2] ipconfig command to flush dns cache: <http://theos.in/windows-vista/flush-dns-cache-with-ipconfig/>

[3] dnsmasq is a lightweight DNS: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/how-do-i-improve-dns-performance-on-linuxwindows-desktop.html>

Copyright © 2006-2010 [nixCraft](http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/copyright). All rights reserved. This print / pdf version is for personal non-commercial use only. More details <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/copyright>.