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## How to Find out the IP address assigned to eth0 and display IP only

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**Q.** I need to get the IP address assigned to eth0 Linux interface. How do I find out IP address only? I don't want other information displayed by Linux ifconfig command.

**A.** For shell script or may be for other cause you may need the IP address only. You can use ifconfig command with grep and other filters.

Default output of /sbin/ifconfig command is all interfaces:

```
$ /sbin/ifconfig
```

Output:

```
lo          Link encap:Local Loopback
            inet addr:127.0.0.1  Mask:255.0.0.0
            inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
            UP LOOPBACK RUNNING  MTU:16436  Metric:1
            RX packets:69527 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
            TX packets:69527 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
            collisions:0 txqueuelen:0
            RX bytes:41559546 (39.6 MiB)  TX bytes:41559546 (39.6 MiB)

eth0        Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 00:17:9A:0A:F6:44
            inet addr:192.168.2.1  Bcast:192.168.1.255  Mask:255.255.255.0
            inet6 addr: fe80::217:9aff:fe0a:f644/64 Scope:Link
            UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST  MTU:1500  Metric:1
            RX packets:227614 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
            TX packets:60421 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
            collisions:272 txqueuelen:1000
            RX bytes:69661583 (66.4 MiB)  TX bytes:10361043 (9.8 MiB)
            Interrupt:17

ra0         Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 00:50:56:C0:00:01
            inet addr:192.168.1.2  Bcast:192.168.2.255  Mask:255.255.255.0
            inet6 addr: fe80::250:56ff:fec0:1/64 Scope:Link
            UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST  MTU:1500  Metric:1
            RX packets:1024 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
            TX packets:1320 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
            collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
            RX bytes:0 (0.0 b)  TX bytes:0 (0.0 b)
```

Now you just select eth0 as follows:

```
$ /sbin/ifconfig eth0
```

Now you just wanted the IP address, use grep to get the IP:

```
$ /sbin/ifconfig eth0 | grep 'inet addr:'
```

Output:

```
inet addr:192.168.2.1  Bcast:192.168.2.255  Mask:255.255.255.0
```

To get IP address from use cut command:

```
$ /sbin/ifconfig eth0 | grep 'inet addr:' | cut -d: -f2
```

Output:

```
192.168.2.1  Bcast
```

Finally remove Bcast with awk

```
$ /sbin/ifconfig eth0 | grep 'inet addr:' | cut -d: -f2 | awk '{ print $1}'
```

Output:

```
192.168.2.1
```

See [how to read UNIX/Linux](#) <sup>[1]</sup> system IP address in [a shell script](#) <sup>[2]</sup>

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[1] how to read UNIX/Linux: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/nixcraft/vivek/blogger/2006/01/read-unixlinux-system-ip-address-in.php>

[2] a shell script: <http://bash.cyberciti.biz/script/read-ip-address.bash.php>

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