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Configuring Linux Static DHCP Clients by Sending Host Name

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Q. My DHCP server configured to assign static IPs to few Debian / Ubuntu Linux boxes using hostnames. My Windows 2000 and XP client computer sends hostname automatically. How do I send my hostname under Linux using dhcp client?

A. By default, the DHCP server requests the subnet-mask, broadcast-address, time-offset, routers, domain-name, domain-name-servers and host-name options. DHCP client configuration allows you to set a hostname using send host-name "hostname" parameter.

[1]

Linux dhcpclient configuration - dhclient.conf

dhclient.conf is a configuration file for DHCP client under Linux:

- Debian / Ubuntu Linux - **/etc/dhcp3/dhclient.conf**
- RHEL / Fedora / CentOS Linux - **/etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/ifcfg-eth0** (for 1st DHCP network interface)

> ⚠️ **WARNING!** These examples requires correct hostname [2].

Debian / Ubuntu Linux DHCP Client Configuration

Open configuration file, enter:

```
$ sudo vi /etc/dhcp3/dhclient.conf
```

Set hostname as follows:

```
send host-name "vivek-laptop";
```

Save and close the file. Test new settings, enter:

```
$ sudo dhclient eth0
$ sudo dhclient interface-name
```

RHEL / CentOS / Fedora Linux DHCP Client Configuration

Open configuration file, enter:

```
# vi /etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/ifcfg-eth0
```

Append hostname, enter:

```
DHCP_HOSTNAME=vivek-laptop
```

Save and close the file. Restart network service:

```
# service network restart
```

Please refer to dhclient.conf man page for more information, enter:

```
$ man dhclient.conf
```

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URLs in this post:

[1] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/networking/**
[2] correct hostname: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-change-my-hostname-machine-name/**