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How To Hide BIND DNS Sever Version

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Q. How do I hide my dns server version number from command such as:
`dig @ns1.example.com -c CH -t txt version.bind`

How do I hide version under BIND9 Linux / UNIX systems?

A. This is nothing but **security through obscurity**. You can hide version but one can always [fingerprint your name server to find out exact](#) ^[2] version details using `fpdns` tool.

Open your `named.conf` file, find out options { ... }; section,

```
options
{
    query-source      port 53;
    query-source-v6   port 53;
    listen-on { 174.ttt.xx.yy; };
    directory "/var/named"; // the default
    dump-file         "data/cache_dump.db";
    statistics-file    "data/named_stats.txt";
    memstatistics-file "data/named_mem_stats.txt";
    dnssec-enable yes;
    recursion no;
    allow-notify { 174.zzz.yy.zz; 172.xx.yy.zz; };
    version "BIND";
};
```

To hide your bind version:

```
version "YOUR Message";
```

OR

```
version "use fpdns to get version number ;)";
```

Save and close the file. Restart named, enter:

```
# service bind9 restart
```

OR

```
# service named restart
```

How do I see bind version?

Use `dig` command, enter

```
$ dig @ns1.softlayer.com -c CH -t txt version.bind
```

As usual, you can use `fpdns` to find out version number.

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[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/bind-dns/>

[2] fingerprint your name server to find out exact: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/howto-remotely-determine-dns-server-version.html>

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