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Bash Shell Command to Find or Get IP address

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Q. How do I find out my Linux / UNIX system ip address, subnet and related networking information from a command prompt?

A. To find out IP address of Linux/UNIX/BSD/Unixish system you need to use command called ifconfig. It is used to configure the kernel-resident network interfaces. It is used at boot time to set up interfaces as necessary. After that, it is usually only needed when debugging or when system tuning is needed. If no arguments are given to ifconfig command it displays the status of the current active interfaces. It displays Ethernet IP address, Mac address, subnet mask and other information. Type /sbin/ipconfig command to display IP address:

[1]

```
$ /sbin/ifconfig
```

OR type the following command:

```
$ /sbin/ifconfig | less
```

Under Solaris and other Unixish oses you may need to type ifconfig command with -a option as follows:

```
$ /sbin/ifconfig -a
```

Output of above commands:

```
eth0      Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 00:0F:EA:91:04:07
  inet addr:192.168.1.2  Bcast:192.168.1.255  Mask:255.255.255.0
  inet6 addr: fe80::20f:eaff:fe91:407/64 Scope:Link
  UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST  MTU:1500  Metric:1
  RX packets:31167 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
  TX packets:26404 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
  collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
  RX bytes:38338591 (36.5 MiB)  TX bytes:3538152 (3.3 MiB)
  Interrupt:18 Base address:0xc000

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:1994 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
  TX packets:1994 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
  collisions:0 txqueuelen:0
  RX bytes:188041 (183.6 KiB)  TX bytes:188041 (183.6 KiB)
```

In above example 192.168.1.2 is IP address of eth0 Ethernet interface. For more information please see Howto read UNIX/Linux system IP address in a shell script. [2]

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[1] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/unix/**
[2] read UNIX/Linux system IP address in a shell script.: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/nixcraft/vivek/blogger/2006/01/read-unixlinux-system-ip-address-in.php**