Obtaining an IP address

When the computer gets powered on it looks for an internet connection (wifi, ethernet). It sends a DHCP Discover to find a DHCP (Dynamic host configuration protocol) server. It's basically a message asking for someone to offer up an IP Address. The server then sends an available one, including details (subnet mask (32-bit number used to divide the IP address into network and host portions), gateway (connects two networks) and DNS server (domain name system), a server that turns website names (e.g. [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)) into numbers (IP addresses) to make computers understand more.

DORA Networking = Discover, Offer, Request, Acknowledgement

The process of a client obtaining an IP address from a DHCP server to a network.