

IN THIS CHAPTER

- » Getting a handle (or two) on the binary system
- » Digging into IP addresses
- » Finding out how subnetting works
- » Understanding private and public IP addresses
- » Looking at network address translation
- » Finding out how DHCP works
- » Understanding how DNS works

Chapter 6

Dealing with TCP/IP

Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol — TCP/IP — is the basic protocol by which computers on a network talk to each other. Without TCP/IP, networks wouldn't work. In this chapter, I introduce you to the most important concepts of TCP/IP.



WARNING

This chapter is far and away the most technical chapter in this book. It helps you examine the binary system, the details of how IP addresses are constructed, how subnetting works, and how two of the most important TCP/IP services — Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) and Domain Name System (DNS) — work. You don't need to understand every detail in this chapter to set up a simple TCP/IP network. However, the more you understand the information in this chapter, the more TCP/IP will start to make sense. Be brave.