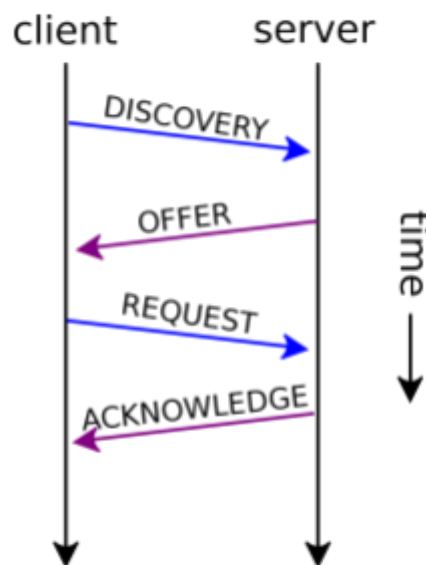


# Ping, DHCP Client Address

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## DHCP Overview

Statically assigning IP address information to individual networked devices is often time-consuming, error-prone, and lacking scalability. Rather than static IP address assignments, many corporate networks dynamically set IP address parameters to their devices. An early option for performing this automatic assignment of IP addresses was Bootstrap Protocol (BOOTP for short). However, the foremost popular approach for dynamic IP address assignment is Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP). DHCP offers a more robust solution to IP address assignment than the answer provided by BOOTP. DHCP doesn't require a statically configured database of MAC address to IP address mappings. Also, DHCP features a wide variety of options beyond introductory IP address, subnet mask, and default gateway parameters. For instance, a DHCP server can educate a DHCP client about the IP address of a WINS server, or maybe an administrator-defined parameter (for example, the IP address of a TFTP server from which a configuration file might be downloaded). A protocol rendered obsolete by BOOTP and DHCP is Reverse Address Resolution Protocol (RARP).



**Figure 1: DHCP Request**

