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ITC102

Email and DNS

Email (short for electronic mail) is a quick, easy way to send messages to other people, regardless of where they are. Emails contain many similar things to regular mail, or “snail mail”. The sender must have an address, as well as the intended recipient. The message is sent to an outgoing mail server via SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol), which is comparable to the post office. The SMTP then contacts a DNS (Domain Name Server), similar to a phone/address book for the internet. It converts the domain like “example@gmail.com” to an IP address, which is then used to find the recipient of the message. The message is then sent through an MTA (Mail Transfer Agent), which directs the email to where it needs to go.

Domain Name Servers (DNS) are the internet’s equivalent of a telephone directory. They keep a directory of domain names and their corresponding Internet Protocol (IP) addresses. When you type the address of a website in your browser, the DNS will then look up the IP address of the site you wish to go to. This is how your device knows where to look for the information you’re seeking.

<http://www.howtogeek.com/56002/htg-explains-how-does-email-work/>

http://www.networksolutions.com/support/what-is-a-domain-name-server-dns-and-how-does-it-work/