nslookup

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[Jump to navigation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#mw-head)[Jump to search](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#searchInput)

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| **nslookup** | |
| [The nslookup command](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Nslookup-Command.png)  The nslookup command | |
| [**Developer(s)**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software_developer) | [Internet Systems Consortium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_Systems_Consortium), Andrew Cherenson, [IBM](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IBM), [Microsoft](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft), Lucas Suggs |
| [**Operating system**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operating_system) | [Unix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unix), [Unix-like](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unix-like), [OS/2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OS/2), [Microsoft Windows](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Windows), [ReactOS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ReactOS) |
| [**Type**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software_categories#Categorization_approaches) | [Command](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Command_(computing)) |
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**nslookup** is a [network administration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Network_administration) [command-line](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Command-line) tool available in many computer [operating systems](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operating_system) for querying the [Domain Name System](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_Name_System) (DNS) to obtain [domain name](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_name) or [IP address](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IP_address) mapping, or other [DNS records](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DNS_record). The name "nslookup" means "name server lookup".



**Contents**

* [1Overview](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#Overview)
* [2Usage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#Usage)
* [3See also](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#See_also)
* [4References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#References)
* [5Further reading](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#Further_reading)
* [6External links](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#External_links)

Overview[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Nslookup&action=edit&section=1)]

nslookup was a member of the [BIND](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BIND) name server software. Early[[*when?*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Manual_of_Style/Dates_and_numbers#Chronological_items)] in the development of BIND 9, the [Internet Systems Consortium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_Systems_Consortium) planned to deprecate nslookup in favor of [host](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Host_(Unix)) and [dig](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dig_(command)). This decision was reversed in 2004 with the release of BIND 9.3[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_note-1) and nslookup has been fully supported since then.

The [command](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Command_(computing)) does not use the operating system's local Domain Name System resolver library to perform its queries, and thus may behave differently from dig, which does. Additionally, vendor-provided versions may include output of other sources of name information, such as [host files](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hosts_(file)), and [Network Information Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Network_Information_Service). Some behaviors of nslookup may be modified by the contents of [resolv.conf](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resolv.conf).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_note-2)

The [Linux](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linux) version of nslookup was written by Andrew Cherenson.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_note-3)

The [ReactOS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ReactOS) version was developed by Lucas Suggs and is licensed under the [GPL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GNU_General_Public_License).[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_note-4)

Usage[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Nslookup&action=edit&section=2)]

nslookup operates in interactive or non-interactive mode. When used interactively by invoking it without arguments or when the first argument is - (minus sign) and the second argument is a [hostname](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hostname) or Internet address of a name server, the user issues parameter configurations or requests when presented with the nslookup prompt (>). When no arguments are given, then the command queries the default server. The - (minus sign) invokes subcommands which are specified on the command line and should precede nslookup commands. In non-interactive mode, i.e. when the first argument is a name or Internet address of the host being searched, parameters and the query are specified as command line arguments in the invocation of the program. The non interactive mode searches the information for a specified host using the default name server.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_note-5)

See also[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Nslookup&action=edit&section=3)]

* [whois](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whois)

References[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Nslookup&action=edit&section=4)]

* 1. [**^**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_ref-1) [*"BIND 9.3.0 is now available"*](https://lists.isc.org/pipermail/bind-announce/2004-September/000155.html)*. Isc.org. 2004-09-23. Retrieved 2015-01-13.*
  2. [**^**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_ref-2) [*"DNS and BIND, Fourth Edition: Chapter 12. nslookup and dig"*](http://docstore.mik.ua/orelly/networking_2ndEd/dns/ch12_01.htm)*.*[*O'Reilly*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/O%27Reilly_Media)*. Retrieved 20 July 2010.*
  3. [**^**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_ref-3) [*"nslookup(1) - Linux man page"*](https://linux.die.net/man/1/nslookup)*. linux.die.net.*
  4. [**^**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_ref-4) [*"reactos/reactos"*](https://github.com/reactos/reactos)*. GitHub.*
  5. [**^**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nslookup#cite_ref-5) [*"pSeries and AIX Information Center"*](https://archive.today/20130103083758/http:/publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/pseries/v5r3/index.jsp?topic=/com.ibm.aix.cmds/doc/aixcmds4/nslookup.htm)*. Publib.boulder.ibm.com. Archived from*[*the original*](http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/pseries/v5r3/index.jsp?topic=/com.ibm.aix.cmds/doc/aixcmds4/nslookup.htm)*on 2013-01-03. Retrieved 2012-09-05.*

Further reading[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Nslookup&action=edit&section=5)]

* *Barrett, Daniel J. (2012). Macintosh Terminal Pocket Guide: Take Command of Your Mac.*[*O'Reilly*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/O%27Reilly_Media)*.*[*ISBN*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISBN_(identifier))[*978-1449328986*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:BookSources/978-1449328986)*.*
* *Stanek, William R. (2008). Windows Command-Line Administrator's Pocket Consultant, 2nd Edition.*[*Microsoft Press*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Press)*.*[*ISBN*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISBN_(identifier))[*978-0735622623*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:BookSources/978-0735622623)*.*

External links[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Nslookup&action=edit&section=6)]

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|  | Wikiversity has learning resources about [***Nslookup***](https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Special:Search/Nslookup) |

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|  | Wikibooks has a book on the topic of: [***Guide to Windows Commands***](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Guide_to_Windows_Commands) |

* Microsoft Windows
  + [nslookup](https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb490721.aspx) – [Microsoft TechNet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_TechNet) library
  + [Using NSlookup.exe](https://support.microsoft.com/kb/200525/), [Microsoft Knowledge Base](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Knowledge_Base)
* Unix-like OSs
  + [nslookup(1)](https://linux.die.net/man/1/nslookup) – [Linux](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linux) User Commands [Manual](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Man_page)
* Other
  + [DNS Web Tools](https://curlie.org/Computers/Internet/Protocols/DNS/Web_Tools) at [Curlie](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curlie) (includes web-version of nslookup)