

# DNS, in clearer English

A relaxed editing example inspired by ASD-STE100. It has not been checked for formal compliance.

## BEFORE / DENSE TECHNICAL PROSE

DNS resolution maps a domain name to an IP address through a resolver, using cached records where available and querying other DNS servers when necessary, before the browser connects to the destination.

## AFTER / ONE IDEA AT A TIME

DNS helps find an IP address for a website name.

A resolver receives the request. It can use a saved answer. If it needs more information, it asks other DNS servers.

The resolver returns an answer to your device. Your browser can then connect to the website. DNS does not deliver the web page.

## THREE TERMS TO KEEP

**DNS:** Domain Name System.

**Resolver:** a service that finds DNS answers.

**Cache:** temporary storage for earlier answers.

## CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

1. Does DNS download the page? **No.**
2. Must every lookup repeat all queries? **No. A cached answer can shorten the lookup.**

---

Sources: Cloudflare, "What is DNS?"; ASD STEMG, STE FAQ.  
Open the linked sources for details and the formal standard.