

## How do I modify my computer's hosts file?

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### Microsoft Windows

1. Go to Start > Programs > Accessories
2. Right click on Notepad and select Run As...
3. Select to run the program as Administrator.
4. Open My Computer.
5. Navigate to Windows > system32 > drivers > etc
- Sometimes it may show a notice saying the files are hidden. Click to show the files.
6. In the etc folder, open the 'hosts' file using Notepad.
7. On a new line, enter the IP and hostname that you want to create an entry for. Such as:**184.12.34.567** **^** **example.com**  
*Note: Entering [example.com](http://example.com) will NOT direct [www.example.com](http://www.example.com) to that IP. To do that, you would need to make another entry such as: 184.12.34.567 [www.example.com](http://www.example.com)*
8. Click Save.
9. To check that the hosts file has been modified correctly, you will need to ping the hostname:
10. Go to Start > Run...
11. Type **cmd** and press Enter
12. The Command Prompt window will pop up. Type in:**ping example.com**
13. Press Enter
14. If the correct IP shows up then you have edited the hosts file correctly.

### Mac OS X

1. Go to Applications > Utilities > Terminal
2. The Terminal program window should pop up. Type in:**sudo nano /etc/hosts****^**
3. Press Enter
4. When prompted, type in the administrator password and hit Enter.
5. Use the arrow keys to navigate. On a new line, enter the IP and hostname that you want to create an entry for. Such as:**184.12.34.567** **^** **example.com**  
*Note: Entering [example.com](http://example.com) will NOT direct [www.example.com](http://www.example.com) to that IP. To do that, you would need to make another entry such as: 184.12.34.567 [www.example.com](http://www.example.com)*
6. When you are done making changes, hit Ctrl+O to save changes. When it prompts you to enter a file name, hit Enter to keep the current name.
7. Hit Ctrl+X to return to the prompt.
8. To check that the hosts file has been modified correctly, you will need to ping the hostname. Type:**ping example.com**
9. Press Enter
10. If the correct IP shows up then you have edited the hosts file correctly.