

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

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### Microsoft Windows

1. Go to Start > Programs > Accessories2. 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 > etcSometimes 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 Â example.com***Note: Entering 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 Enter12. The Command Prompt window will pop up. Type in:**ping example.com**13. Press Enter14. If the correct IP shows up then you have edited the hosts file correctly.

### Mac OS X

1. Go to Applications > Utilities > Terminal2. The Terminal program window should pop up. Type in: **sudo nano /etc/hosts**Â 3. Press Enter4. 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 Â example.com***Note: Entering 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 Enter10. If the correct IP shows up then you have edited the hosts file correctly.