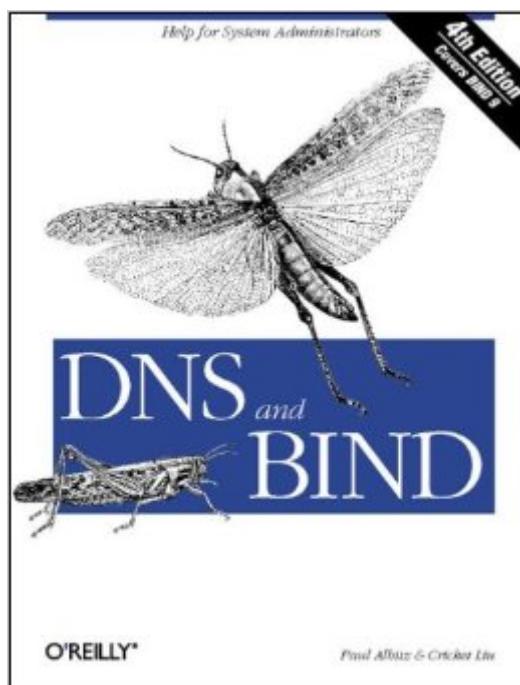


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DNS And BIND, Fourth Edition



Synopsis

DNS and BIND is about one of the Internet's fundamental building blocks: the distributed host information database that's responsible for translating names into addresses, routing mail to its proper destination, and many other services. As the authors say in the preface, if you're using the Internet, you're already using DNS--even if you don't know it. This edition brings you up to date on the new 9.1.0 and 8.2.3 versions of BIND along with the older 4.9 version. There's also more extensive coverage of NOTIFY, IPv6 forward and reverse mapping, transaction signatures, and the new DNS Security Extensions; and a new section on accommodating Windows 2000 clients, servers and Domain Controllers. Whether you're an administrator involved daily with DNS or a user who wants to be more informed about the Internet and how it works, you'll find this book essential reading. Topics include: What DNS does, how it works, and when you need to use it How to find your own place in the Internet's name space Setting up name servers Using MX records to route mail Configuring hosts to use DNS name servers Subdividing domains (parenting) Securing your name server: restricting who can query your server, preventing unauthorized zone transfers, avoiding bogus name servers, etc. Mapping one name to several servers for load sharing Troubleshooting: using nslookup, reading debugging output, common problems DNS programming, using the resolver library and Perl's Net::DNS module

Book Information

Paperback: 624 pages

Publisher: O'Reilly Media; 4 edition (April 26, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0596001584

ISBN-13: 978-0596001582

Product Dimensions: 7 x 1.1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (24 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #885,680 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 in [Books > Computers & Technology > Operating Systems > Unix > DNS & Bind](#) #16 in [Books > Computers & Technology > Operating Systems > Unix > Administration](#) #189 in [Books > Computers & Technology > Networking & Cloud Computing > Intranets & Extranets](#)

Customer Reviews

I really needed to understand DNS/BIND; not just know how to start, run, and update it- but really

understand DNS. This book was perfect. The authors introduced DNS with a high-level overview and then moved in closer to help you set it up. You can actually read the first 3 chapters and work through the next 2 while setting up your server and domain. The rest of the book really gets into the nuts and bolts of DNS and BIND. Don't stop after chapter 5, continue reading and pick all the knowledge you will need to be a DNS/BIND admin.

DNS is a tough topic to explain; especially to those of us that have always worked in the Microsoft/WINS world. This book does a great job of that. The book is accurate and well organized and it holds a reserved spot on my shelf of regular reference guides. I recommend a little bit of basic knowledge of DNS when starting this book and then re-read the first chapter or two, but it does a great job of explaining DNS so that even Microsoft-centric people like me can understand.

DNS and BIND, Fourth Edition makes mastering this critical service easy. As someone who is trying to increase my knowledge of server-side services and the Linux operating system, I found DNS and BIND to be extremely helpful. The authors seem to have found the ideal mix of humor, information and tips and taken that and rolled it into a very organized title. The book's chapters proceed in a logical order, a newbie can read the title cover to cover, while a more experienced admin can start in the middle somewhere and proceed to the back cover. This reviewer was very impressed with the level of organization in this title. I have read a lot of computer books, but it would appear that the authors really put the extra effort into this one.

Before reading this book, using Bind was a daunting and intimidating task. Even when I followed examples on web tutorials, I found I still didn't understand what it was I was doing. But having read this book, I feel much more confident using Bind and DNS in general. Unintuitive config files are now totally readable, and fancy terms such as "zone" or "reverse mapping" make much more sense now. I definitely recommend this book to Unix netadmins because this book has a lot of practical advice for how best to optimize Bind in a network, and how to deal with tricky tasks such as delegating and compensating for network disasters (a must read section). Best of all, the book is very easy to read, rather humorous at times, and has something for people of all levels of experience. I whole heartedly give this book 5 stars, and strongly urge other Unix/Linux folks to read it too. Enjoy!

I am a netadmin who works in NT. We are going to Linux in bits and pieces and one piece is DNS.

I'm picking up where my boss left off and I needed some strong basics, clear examples and a good reference point. This book is all of those things (other than the fact they forget to mention what file they are referring to from time to time). I'm reading the book cover to cover and I'm half way through. I jump ahead when I need to, but always come back to following the chapter outline. I have gained such a knowledge of BIND and a better understanding of DNS and I owe it to this book. O'Reilly does a great job with it's tech books and I am a fan.

I bought this book to understand the basics of DNS. Needless to say the book did its job well. Explains the concepts, set up and Administration very well. From the programmers point of view this book had very good examples. The C examples were well documented and explained the workings of a resolver pretty well. Overall, I cannot think of a better reference/guidebook for DNS.

This is the best book to have with you when you're working with DNS. It has useful, clear, and well-explained examples. Its presentation of real-life scenarios and how to solve them in a reasonable manner is very thorough. You are shown how to troubleshoot problems using nslookup, dig, and BIND's own debug output. The fourth edition expands on security and new features found in BIND 9. A well-written book that is very easy to follow for beginners and experts alike. It should be required reading for anyone working with DNS. This book definitely belongs in the classic category.

I have both the 3rd and 4th editions of this book. It is a must-read kind of book for those needing to do DNS. I need an understanding of how DNS and BIND work since I wish to get my own internet services re-started. This book provides it. In my experience, DNS can be as painful to re-do correctly as it is to initially set up correctly because once you do have it running properly you can just forget all about it. It "Just Works". So when you are later faced with having to re-learn DNS it can be as painful as the initial learning experience. That is why a book with many how-to coding examples for different DNS zones becomes valuable. I sure wish this book had the examples. With the understanding that I've only read the first 89 of 600+ pages, I'd like to agree with all the positives cited by other reviewers. You really must get, and read, and re-read, and re-read this book if you want to run web servers, mailing lists, and so on. For such a comprehensive book, it offers only one getting-started example of use to someone wanting to set up his or her own domain quickly (like me.) The movie.edu examples given are excellent, but at least one additional example is really needed. How about discussion of and coding examples for a zone named video.biz consisting of 4 machines on the same network plus a print server and a Linksys Cable/DSL router? You know, the

kind of zone someone at home or running a small business would establish. Also I would like to see a new Appendix, Appendix F, discussing common DNS coding mistakes based on the authors experience. Often seeing examples of coding mistakes can help people like me avoid them.

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