

## Re: InetAddress.equals() Anomaly?

**Source:** <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.vjsharp/2005-01/0019.html>

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I don't agree.

Two objects are equal if they can be used interchangeably and if they produce the same results when any arbitrary method is applied to them.

In your case:

`dnsaddr.toString()` produces `firenet.us/12.34.75.101`

`ipaddr.toString()` produces `grande.rivcom.net/12.34.75.101`

So, the objects are not equal because they don't produce the same result when you apply `toString()` to them.

If you consider that two `InetAddress` should be equal as soon as they have the same IP, you take a biased view, you consider that your `equals` method should take the IP part into account and completely ignore the name side of the `InetAddress` object. This is wrong. If you start overriding `equals` to give it "partially equals" semantics, you are going to run into some trouble.

So, this is not a bug in the JDK. If you want to use the IP as a hash key, you should use the IP (formatted as a string, or as an integer) as key, you should not use `InetAddress` because this is a richer object that carries more information than an IP.

Bruno.

"Pete Loveall" <[psl@ametx.com](mailto:psl@ametx.com).NO\_SPAM> a écrit dans le message de news: ePrGKCN9EHA.1296@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl...

> *Definite J# bug!*

>

> *The following output was produced by the code below:*

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> `203574117 203574117`

> `firenet.us/12.34.75.101=grande.rivcom.net/12.34.75.101->>false`

> `grande.rivcom.net/12.34.75.101=firenet.us/12.34.75.101->>false`

>

> `import java.net.*;`

>

microsoft.public.dotnet.vjsharp: Re: InetAddress.equals() Anomoly?

```
> public class Class1
> {
> public Class1()
> {
> }
> /** @attribute System.STAThread() */
> public static void main(String[] args)
> {
> InetAddress dnsaddr = null;
> InetAddress ipaddr = null;
> try
> {
> dnsaddr = InetAddress.getByName("firenet.us");
> ipaddr = InetAddress.get
```