

## Re: Trouble obtaining IP address

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.network\\_web/2008-01/msg00640.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.network_web/2008-01/msg00640.html)

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- *From:* "Patrick Keenan" <test@xxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Tue, 29 Jan 2008 19:05:43 -0500
- 

"Dual Trace" <DualTrace@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
<news:DB802B44-669D-49B0-8958-C6035D6F9E58@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Chuck,

Very interesting reading in your links. So some internet providers will not let you switch from one computer to another without waiting some amount of time.

That mostly applies to cable services that don't authenticate with usernames and passwords. On newer systems, you have to power cycle the cable modem to make it work reliably, with a pause of about a minute between off and on. It's a quirk of the modem, not ISP policy.

Some older Cable systems authenticated by MAC address. This is what the "clone MAC address" function on routers is for – you log into the router from the system that was originally connected to the cable modem, and clone the address. The Router can then connect immediately. Otherwise, you have to ask the cable company to reset the cable modem.

In my area, all DSL providers require a username and password, and Cable providers don't.

As far as I can tell from the Verizon support site, they \*do\* require a username and password, like other DSL systems.

HTH  
-pk

Then it looks like the new computer would have been able to get the IP address even without the Windows recovery job, just by waiting long enough before attempting it. You know, I tend to think this conspiracy theory applies.  
Thanks.

"Chuck [MVP]" wrote:

Re: Trouble obtaining IP address

On Tue, 29 Jan 2008 08:52:32 -0800, Dual Trace

<DualTrace@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

>I ll try to make this as short and clear as possible and then reply with  
>details as needed / requested.  
>  
>I have an old computer connected to internet via DSL modem which used to  
>work fine. Decided to connect a new computer to internet using the same  
>modem, so I moved the Ethernet cable from the old one to the new one.  
>The new  
>one was not able to get the IP address. Went back and forth through the  
>ipconfig deal with Verizon tech support, but could not make it work. >Tried  
>the same maneuvers with the old one, just to prove modem and connection  
>are  
>fine and indeed everything worked fine when the old computer was hooked.  
>  
>Tech support from the new computer (HP) advised me to go through the  
>system  
>recovery because some Windows socket registry might be corrupted. Done  
>the  
>recovery and was able to connect the new computer. IP address, etc. were  
>acquired and all was OK.  
>  
>Now I switched the Ethernet cable to the old computer again and guess  
>what:  
>it shows the same symptom. Cannot obtain the IP address. Verizon tech  
>support  
>said I cannot switch Ethernet cable from one computer to another and  
>expect  
>to work because the last computer obtaining an IP address will somehow  
>keep  
>that route occupied and the attempt of another one to get an IP address >will  
>fail. They said I need a router.  
>  
>Well, how come it worked after restoring the new computer? At that stage  
>of  
>the game, the old computer had obtained an IP address and then the new  
>one  
>was able to connect and get his as well.  
>  
>Note: When trying the ipconfig command, both IP and Subnet Mask seem  
>to >get  
>valid addresses, but none is shown for Default Gateway.  
>  
>I know this is not black magic, but it certainly looks to me.  
>  
>Any help is appreciated.  
>Thank you,  
>Dual Trace

You do need a router. I'm surprised that an ISP would actually tell you that,

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though.

Switching two computers back and forth using the same Internet service is a dodgy process. With some services, it will work, with others it may work but take time for one computer be accepted after another was used previously.

<<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2005/07/connecting-different-devices-to-your.html>>  
<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2005/07/connecting-different-devices-to-your.html>

My guess is the amount of time that it took you to run the Winsock repair was enough time for the one MAC address to clear from the Verizon DHCP server, and allow the second address to work. You can't tell though for sure. Only Verizon can tell you, if they will.

Get a router, they are not expensive and they will help you in many ways.  
<<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2006/01/proper-network-design.html#Router>>  
<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2006/01/proper-network-design.html#Router>

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Cheers,

Chuck, MS-MVP 2005-2007 [Windows - Networking]

<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/>

Paranoia is not a problem, when it's a normal response from experience.

My email is AT DOT

actual address pchuck mvps org.