

## Re: 15 character limit?

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.dns/2005-04/msg00299.html>

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- *From:* "Herb Martin" <[news@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 7 Apr 2005 20:51:54 -0500
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".:mmac:." <lost@sea> wrote in message  
[news:uz\\$nf27OFHA.3560@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:uz$nf27OFHA.3560@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)  
> Yep, I'm confused all right.  
> that must be what happened, it truncated automatically.

You can never set a "visible" NetBIOS name longer than 15 characters since the OS uses character position #16 for system purposes -- every NetBIOS name on the network is EXACTLY 16 characters long so only the first 15 are available for domains, computers, user names etc. (and in fact I would restrict it to 14 characters for true safety.)

> How can I see if there are more than 15 in the netbios name if all that will  
> be shown is the first 15?

There will never be more than that -- if you use a longer DNS name it will be TRULY truncated -- this is NOT just a display issue. (The extra characters are gone.)

> I think the netbios name (the shortened one) is what shows up in the logon  
> dialog and the domain name (the full name) is only in DNS?  
> I gotta wrap my head around this seemingly simple concept!

Right. It used the DNS to pick the NetBIOS name by truncating it -- and since you didn't override it then "what you see is what you get."

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• **References:**

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◇ *From: Herb Martin*

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