

## DNS FAQ's

### What is DNS and why is it important?

Most common Record types (also referred to as **Resource Records** "RR") - The most common are **A**, **MX**, and **NS**.

### What Do DNS Records "Do"?

**A** is a resource record, aka where does a service live (where its hosted)

**MX** (mail exchanger) - This record tells other email servers where to deliver email. This record can also be an email filtering service, then "how does my email make it to my inbox?"

**NS** or "Name server" - This tells all other servers where find your website. Think of this as a phone book for all things on the internet

### DNS examples & Propagation

**WEB:** You type a domain into your browser address bar. Let's use *webfeatcomplete.com* in this example. The browser (Chrome?) asks the DNS server where *webfeatcomplete.com* is.

The DNS server responds with the IP # of the A record. The browser is then able to locate the website and within milliseconds, you are able to see the website. When the DNS record is changed to a new IP, some servers might still respond with the OLD IP#. That is what the term, propagation means.

**EMAIL:** For this example, let's pretend to send an email to *production@webfeatcomplete.com*. For the purposes of this scenario, we'll say that you are using Outlook or your webmail client. When you send the email, your email client logs in to the mail server and says, "I have an email that needs to go to *production@webfeatcomplete.com*. Your server accepts the email/task and then proceeds to ask the DNS records, "Where should I deliver this message? The DNS server answers this question with the MX record in its files. Your email server then transmits the email and all of its content and attachments to the receiving server. The receiving server then runs it, checks, and processes the email to be delivered to the inbox of *production@webfeatcomplete.com*