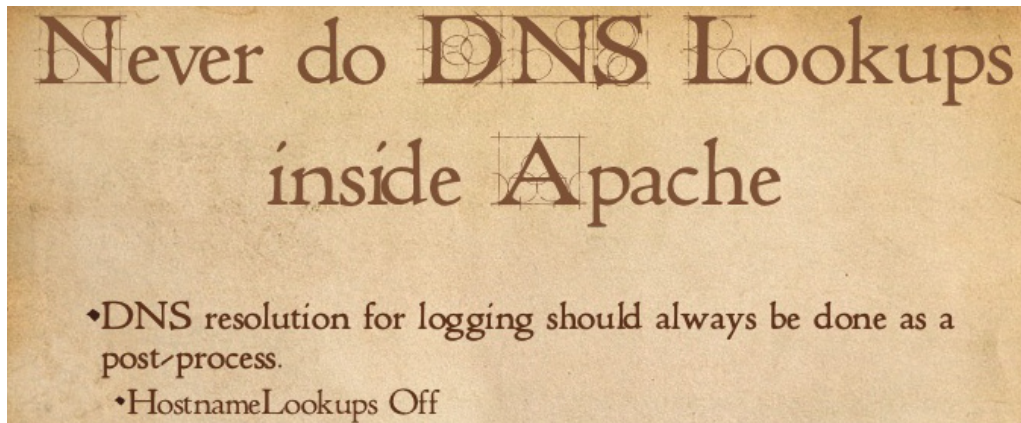


## Apache Webserver disable `hostnamelookups` "`HostnameLookups off`" for minor performance increase

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If you don't much care about logging in logs from which domain / hostnames requests to webserver originate and **you want to boost up the Apache Webserver performance a bit especially on a heavy loaded Websites**, where no need for stuff like **Webalizer, Awstats etc.** , e.g. you're using **GoogleAnalytics** to already track requests (beware as sometimes **GoogleAnalytics** could be missing requests to your webserver, so having some kind of **LogAnalyzer** software on server is always a plus). But anyways accepting that many of us already trust **GoogleAnalytics**.

*Then a great tuning option to use in default domain configuration or in multiple VirtualHosts config is:*

```
HostnameLookups off
```

If you want to make the **HostnameLookups off** as a default behaviour to all your virtualhosts on **Debian / Ubuntu / CentOS / SuSE / RHEL** distro *virtualhosts* add either to default config `/etc/apache2/sites-enabled/000-default` (on Deb based Linuxes) or (on RPM based ones), add directive to `/etc/httpd/httpd.conf`

For self-hosted websites (if run your own small hosting) or for a home situated webserver with up to 20-50 websites it is also a useful optimization tip to include in `/etc/hosts` file all the IPs of sites with

respective domain names following the normal syntax of **/etc/hosts**, e.g. in my own **/etc/hosts**, I have stuff like:

```
pcfreak:~$ cat /etc/hosts
127.0.0.1 localhost localhost.localdomain
127.0.1.1 pcfreak.pcfreak.net pcfreak mail.pcfreak.net
192.168.0.14 new-pcfreak
219.22.88.70 fw
212.36.0.70 ftp.bg.debian.org
212.211.132.32 security.debian.org
83.228.93.76 pcfreak.biz pc-freak.net www.pc-freak.net
# for wordpress plugins
216.58.209.3 gstatic.com
91.225.248.129 www.linkedin.com
74.50.119.198 www.blogtopsites.com
94.31.29.40 static.addtoany.com
216.58.209.202 fonts.googleapis.com
216.58.209.14 www.google-analytics.com
216.58.209.14 feeds.feedburner.com
93.184.220.241 wprp.zemanta.com
199.30.80.32 stumbleupon.com
156.154.168.17 stumbleupon.com
2.18.89.251 platform.linkedin.com
# The following lines are desirable for IPv6 capable hosts

# ... etc. put IPs and hostnames following above syntax
```

As you see from above commented section for wordpress plugins, I've included some common websites used by Wordpress enabled plugins to prevent my own hosting server to query DNS server every time. The normal way the Linux / Unix works is it first checks in **/etc/hosts** and only if the hostname is not defined there then it queries the DNS caching server in my case this is a local DJBDNS cache server, however defining the hosts in **/etc/hosts** saves a lot of milisecons on every request and often if multiple hosts are defined could save (decrease site opening for end users) with seconds.

Well now use some website speed testing plugin like [Yslow](#), [Firebug Fiddler](#) or [HTTPWatch](#)