

Zero Conf

Zero Conf is a protocol, mostly used by Microsoft Windows and Apple's MacOS, that helps with configuring the network settings for a client automatically. The two most frequently used alternatives for IP configuration are [DHCP](#) and manual configuration.

Zero Conf runs without a dedicated service for the job (like DHCP would). Usually it is the last means an unconfigured client uses, after not having a manual IP configuration set and no DHCP replying to IP assignment requests. In such a case, the [client](#) will simply assign itself an IP address taken randomly from the range 169.254.0.0 to 169.254.255.255. If this address is already occupied by another [host](#), the computer tries another one. This way, at least every computer will have a means of communicating with other hosts on the network.

[[games_database](#)] [[network_terms](#)]

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