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Thread: [\[TUT\] How Skype Resolvers Work & How To Protect Yourself From Them | Yore](#)

Yore - September 6, 2015, 11:28 am

Skype resolvers - what do they do?

Imagine a website, where you can simply put in a Skype username and press "Go" - and instantly you have their IP address.

Well that's simply what a Skype resolvers does; they fetch your IP from your Skype username. Unfortunately, it's that simple.

How it works

Its simplicity is caused by how Skype works and functions. Skype uses a protocol called P2P - Peer-to-peer. P2P or Peer-to-peer is also used in Torrent technology:

"Peer-to-peer file sharing is the distribution and sharing of digital media using peer-to-peer (P2P) networking technology. P2P file sharing allows users to access media files such as books, music, movies, and games using a P2P software program that searches for other connected computers on a P2P network to locate the desired content.[1] The nodes (peers) of such networks are end-user computer systems that are interconnected via the Internet."

For example, when you call someone on Skype, your voice is sent straight to their IP address for a socket. This functions as a direct connection to the computer you're communicating with.

Because Skype uses P2P, it is much faster - because you are not going for a server, you are connecting via. P2P. This is also why Skype's calling quality is so good, and almost instant; as if you are talking to somebody face to face.

The Problem With P2P

Anyone with some basic knowledge in traffic monitoring is able to find your IP address using network tools like Wireshark.

Since Skype is using direct connections (P2P), it means that Wireshark is able to pick it up. Using a network tool like Wireshark, you're only able to pick up someones IP address if you're sending the person a file, or if you're in a call with the person.

However, if you've ever used a Skype resolver - you will know that you do not need to be in a call with them, or even have them on your friends-list!

So what's so different there?

Techniques of fetching IP addresses from Skype users

Well, there are actually different Skype resolvers, and they also work in different ways; and you won't know what methods they use.

For example, there are Skype resolvers using API's provided by someone who owns a Live Central Server that has a Skype bot on it.

When you then put in the username of a Skype user, the username is sent to the central server - where one of the Skype bots will call the username and retrieve the IP address of the user.

Another technique is the debug.log file which stores connection statistics - again with a central server, with a Skype account bot.

The bot will add you to its friend-list very quickly, and remove you before you even notice! This is enough for your IP address to be sent to the debug.log file. The IP address is then given to the person who requested it.

There are more methods, which I haven't covered (I might cover them in the future if this thread gets enough feedback.)

How do I protect myself from Skype resolvers?

This is luckily very easy. If you for example signed up for Skype without using a VPN/proxy and you have been Skype resolved - then you are out of luck, but this can be fixed.

First change your IP address, if your IP has been resolved.

This only covers Skype on PC, so if you're on a mobile device; this won't work, and for Mac; this might not be the same either.

Follow these steps: First click on the 'Tools' tab in the Skype menu and simply click on 'Options'.

Go down to 'Advanced' and click on 'Connection'.

In the port number box type in '32535'.

Also remember to check 'Use port 80 and 443 for additional incoming connections'

Select HTTPS from the drop down menu

Put the host as 127.0.0.1 and the port number as 40031

Uncheck 'Enable proxy authentication' and 'Enable uPnP' if it's checked.

Check 'Allow direct connections to your contacts only'

Now simply click on 'Save'

If you haven't done it already, remember to change your IP address.

You can do this by unplugging your router for a while (an hour or two), and when you plug it back in, you should hopefully have a new IP address.

If your ISP and router allows it, you can also change it on your router panel.

Hinch - September 6, 2015, 11:31 am

Nice Simplistic tutorial thanks i might have to use this

Leeway - September 6, 2015, 11:34 am

Very nice tutorial these are just amazingly written.

Yore - *September 9, 2015, 1:30 pm*

I'm not even sure if this is the right section...

Grievous????? - *September 9, 2015, 1:33 pm*

No, not really the right section Yore-san.

Should be here [Skype, IRC, ICQ, AIM, XMPP, and IM Hacks](#)

Hinch - *September 9, 2015, 1:33 pm*

its really not lol. Hence why the unactivity.

Yore - *September 9, 2015, 1:38 pm*

Yeah, I'd appreciate it, if a mod moved it to the appropriate section. hehe

thesil3nt - *September 9, 2015, 4:08 pm*

Great guide for protecting new skype user's ip address. :)

IStillBoughtAndroid - *September 10, 2015, 2:45 pm*

I like the info, but it should be noted that Wireshark can pickup traffic from anyone utilizing the network. So it would be nice to see a caution against using Skype in say, a Starbucks, or any other public location.