

# What Is an SOA Record in DNS

## WHAT IS THE SOA RECORD?

The SOA (Service of Authority) record defines the domain parameters. Each domain name must have a SOA record from now on that the domain name has been registered.

For example, if the domain of dotroll.com is delegated to DotRoll naming servers, we need to provide a SOA record for the dotroll.com domain name in authoritative DNS records. This record is automatically added to the domain names registered at DotRoll.

## QUERYING SOA RECORD

For example, you can use the nslookup command in Windows to access record SOA, while under Linux the host command.

Example of a Windows-based nslookup query:

```
nslookup -q=SOA dotroll.com
Server:  google-public-dns-a.google.com
Address:  8.8.8.8

Non-authoritative answer:
dotroll.com
    primary name server = ns1.dotroll.com
    responsible mail addr = hostmaster.dotroll.com
    serial = 2018071701
    refresh = 86400 (1 day)
    retry = 7200 (2 hours)
    expire = 604800 (7 days)
    default TTL = 600 (10 mins)
```

Example of Linux based host query:

```
host -t SOA dotroll.com
```

```
dotroll.com has SOA record ns1.dotroll.com. hostmaster.dotroll.com. 2018071701 86400 7200  
604800 600
```

## SOA RECORD FORMAT

Fields name	Description
ns1.dotroll.com	Primary name server.
hostmaster.dotroll.com	Admin contact e-mail address. Replace the first dot with an @.
2018071701	Serial number. Increment this, if the domain has been modified.
86400	Refresh time. The secondary NS tries to download the zone every this many seconds.
7200	Retry time. The secondary NS retries to download the zone after this many seconds in case of failure.
604800	Expiry. The secondary NS forgets the zone after this time.
600	Minimum TTL. Negative cache time. The DNS resolver uses this time to cache negative responses.

## EDITING SOA RECORD

1. Sign in with <https://admin.dotroll.com> with your username and password
2. In the top menu bar, click the **Domains / My Domains** menu.
3. Select the domain name for which you want to make the change and then click on it.
4. In the **Manage** box on the left, select **Manage DNS**.
5. In the block at the top of the page, you can modify certain items in the SOA record.
  - You can adjust the record TTL value, Refresh time, Retry, Maturity, and Minimum TTL.
6. Once you've made the settings, click the **Save Changes** button at the bottom of the page.

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