

Finding Your Computer's MAC Address

MAC is short for Media Access Control. The MAC address is the hardware address that uniquely identifies each network device on the Cal Poly network. The MAC address is also sometimes called the ethernet address.

More details are available [below](#) about what a MAC Address really is. Please note that a MAC Address is not the same thing as an IP Address!

- [Windows XP, 2000, and NT](#)
- [Windows ME, 98, and 95](#)
- [MacOS X](#)
- [MacOS 9.2 running TCP/IP \(Open Transport\)](#)
- [Linux](#)
- [Solaris](#)
- [SunOS](#)

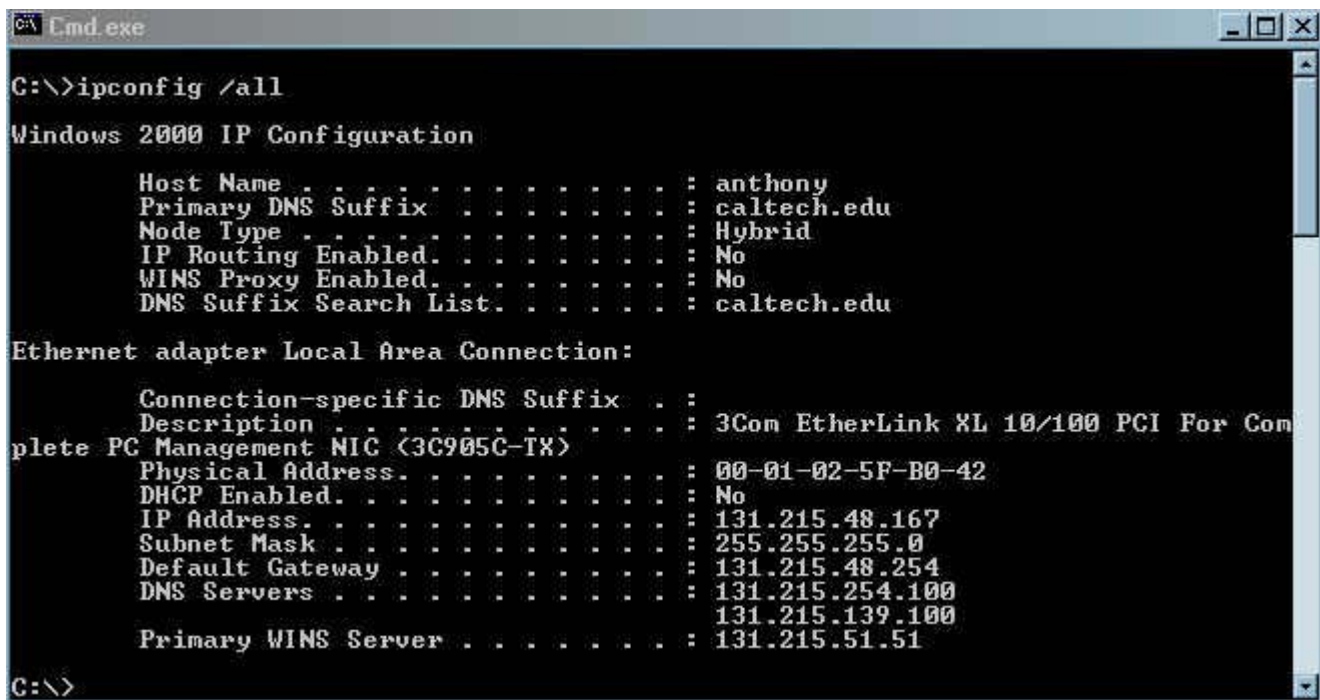
Windows XP, 2000, and NT

Click on the Start Menu then select Run.

Type cmd then click OK.

In the Command Prompt box, type ipconfig /all then hit Enter.

Note the Physical Address, this is also the MAC address.



```
C:\>ipconfig /all

Windows 2000 IP Configuration

Host Name . . . . . : anthony
Primary DNS Suffix . . . . . : caltech.edu
Node Type . . . . . : Hybrid
IP Routing Enabled. . . . . : No
WINS Proxy Enabled. . . . . : No
DNS Suffix Search List. . . . . : caltech.edu

Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection:

   Connection-specific DNS Suffix  . : 
   Description . . . . . : 3Com EtherLink XL 10/100 PCI For Com
   Complete PC Management NIC (3C905C-TX)
   Physical Address. . . . . : 00-01-02-5F-B0-42
   DHCP Enabled. . . . . : No
   IP Address. . . . . : 131.215.48.167
   Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
   Default Gateway . . . . . : 131.215.48.254
   DNS Servers . . . . . : 131.215.254.100
                           131.215.139.100
   Primary WINS Server . . . . . : 131.215.51.51

C:\>
```

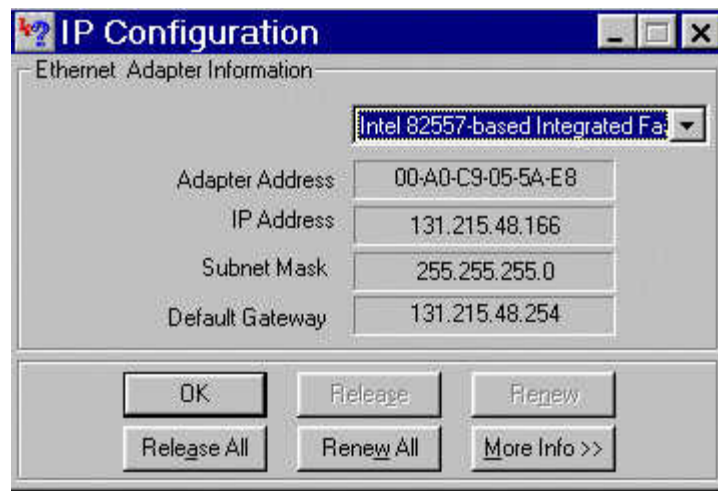
Windows ME, 98, and 95

Click on the Start Menu then select Run.

Type winipcfg then click OK.

In the drop down menu, select the item corresponding to your network card (ignore the PPP Adapter).

Note the Adapter address, this is the MAC address.



MacOS X

In MacOS 10.2 and newer, there are two methods of finding your computer's MAC address. In versions earlier than 10.2, only the first method is available.

Method 1:

- Go to the Apple Menu
- Select System Preferences
- Select Network
- Be sure that the pulldown list is at Show: Built-In Ethernet
- Select the TCP/IP tab
- The MAC address will be shown as "Ethernet Address"

Method 2 (works with 10.2 and newer):

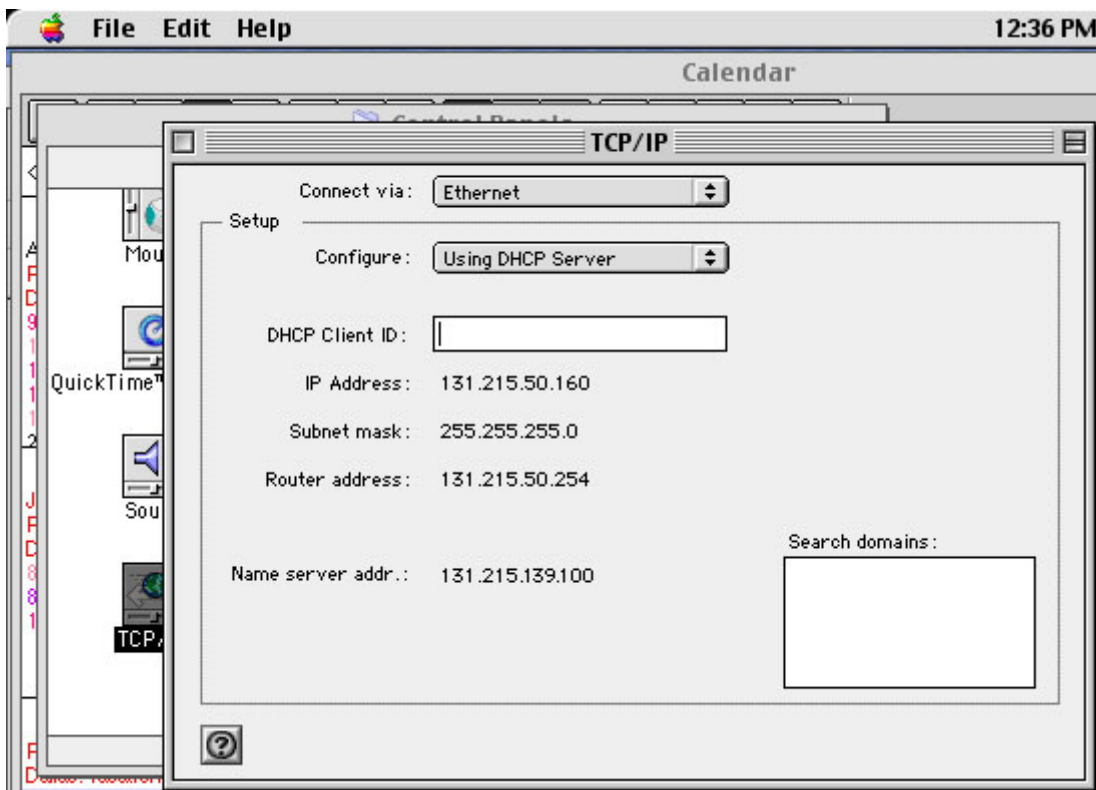
- Go to the Apple Menu
- Select About This Mac
- Select More Info
- Select the System Profile tab
- Under Network Overview: Built-In, the MAC address will be shown as "Ethernet Address"

MacOS 9.2 running TCP/IP (Open Transport)

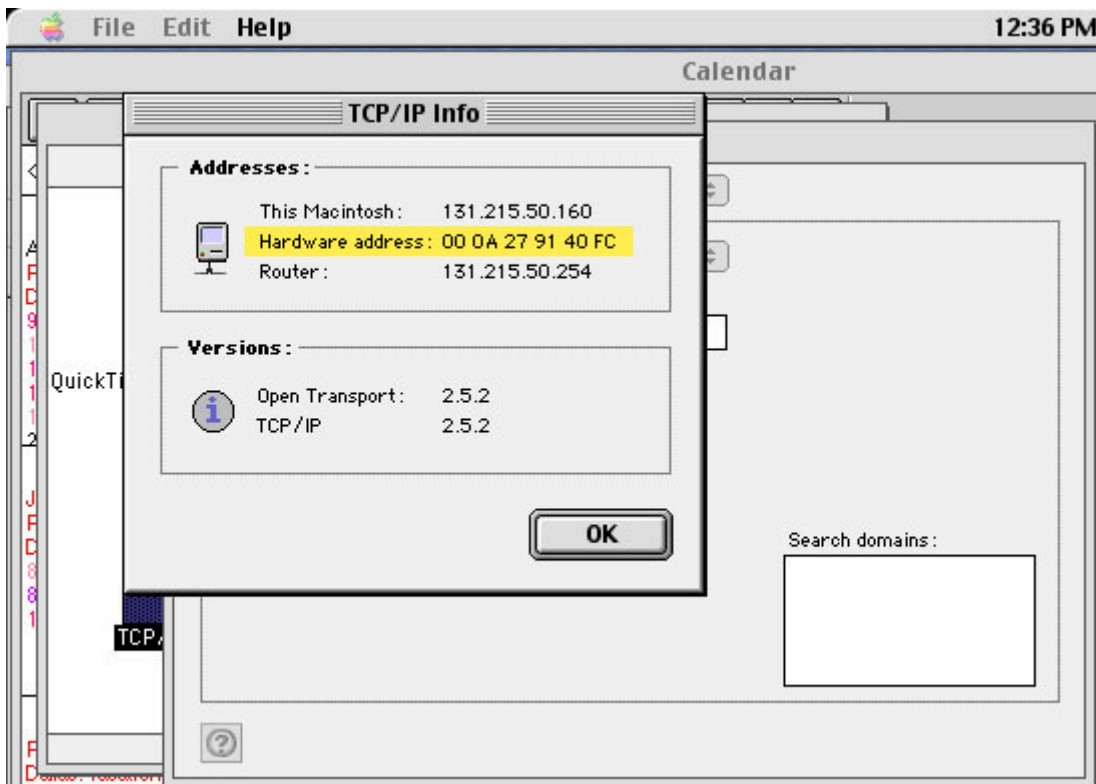
Select the Open Transport Control Panel from the Control Panels folder in the Apple or open the file directly with this path:

```
[Local Macintosh Hard Disk::System Folder::Control Panels::TCP/IP]
```

The control panel will look like this:



1. Get information on the TCP/IP Control Panel
2. From the "File" menu heading, select "Get Information" OR do the following shortcut: <command> <i>



The string of characters which are highlighted in yellow (following the heading "Hardware Address" in the picture above) is the MAC address of your computer. Your computer's number should be different than the number listed here.

Linux

```
ifconfig -a
```

The following is the resulting output. The MAC address appears on the same line as the name of each device (labeled HWaddr). In this example, eth0 is the name of the device that has a MAC address. lo will not have a MAC address as it is a loop back address only. If you have more than

one device connected to the network, it will be listed as well, with a different MAC address.

```
eth0 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 00:90:27:2A:C4:65

    inet addr:131.215.105.34 Bcast:131.215.105.255 Mask:255.255.255.0
    UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
    RX packets:96182694 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:2
    TX packets:137175658 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
    collisions:0 txqueuelen:100
    Interrupt:14 Base address:0x6000

lo Link encap:Local Loopback

    inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0
    UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:3924 Metric:1
    RX packets:5738011 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
    TX packets:5738011 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
    collisions:0 txqueuelen:0
```

Solaris

At the prompt, type `arp` and the machine name as shown:

```
{shada:2194} arp shada
shada (131.215.48.53) at 8:0:20:b9:59:e6 permanent published
```

You can generalize this to

```
arp `uname -n`
```

Note that backticks surround the `uname -n` command.

SunOS

At the prompt, type `ifconfig -a` as shown. Note that the MAC address is also called the ethernet address abbreviated to `ether` by this command.

```
accord# ifconfig -a
le0: flags=63 <UP,BROADCAST,NOTRAILERS,RUNNING>

    inet 131.215.48.152 netmask ffffffff broadcast 131.215.48.255
    ether 8:0:20:11:68:6a

le1: flags=0

    ether 8:0:20:11:68:6a

le2: flags=63 <UP,BROADCAST,NOTRAILERS,RUNNING>

    inet 131.215.50.208 netmask ffffffff broadcast 131.215.50.255
    ether 8:0:20:11:68:6a

lo0: flags=49 <UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING>
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask ff000000
```