

## Re: Socket – gaierror

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*Source:* <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Python/comp.lang.python/2007-08/msg03198.html>

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- *From:* [see@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:see@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) (Douglas Wells)
  - *Date:* Mon, 27 Aug 2007 23:07:48 -0400 (EDT)
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In article <1188260349.031088.69010@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, half.italian@xxxxxxxx writes:

On Aug 27, 4:22 pm, s...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (Douglas Wells) wrote:

In article <1188244050.029920.314...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>,

half.ital...@xxxxxxxx writes:

On Aug 27, 12:32 pm, Larry Bates  
<larry.ba...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

Changing it to IP gives me the same exact error...

```
File "bin/prgram.py", line 123, in notify
smtp = smtplib.SMTP("XXX.XXX.XXX.XXX")
```

```
File "/usr/lib/python2.4/smtplib.py", line 255, in __init__
addr = socket.gethostbyname(socket.gethostname())
```

```
gaierror: (-2, 'Name or service not known')
```

~Sean

Note that the lookup is of your \*local\* system name (socket.gethostname()). I suspect that the name of your client system (the one running the python script) is not registered in DNS.

## Re: Socket – gaierror

Try ping'ing your own system and see if that resolves in DNS. In UNIX/Linux you can use the hostname command; in any system you can write a python script to print the result of socket.gethostname().

– dmw

I found a solution...but still not sure why that happened.

```
root@00:17:08:5E:EF:0F:/usr/local/sw/program/bin# hostname
00:17:08:5E:EF:0F
root@00:17:08:5E:EF:0F:/usr/local/sw/program/bin# ping 00:17:08:5E:EF:0F
ping: unknown host 00:17:08:5E:EF:0F
```

```
socket.gethostname()
```

```
'00:17:08:5E:EF:0F'
```

Workaround: pass the 'local\_hostname' ar