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## MacTCP: Using DDP/IP Gateway to Get Dynamic IP Address

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TOPIC -----

In MacTCP, you can choose to set the addresses dynamically. If you do this, when does the server let go of that address? My problem is that every node that logs on never lets go of an address--so in a short time, all addresses are taken although only a few people are logged on.

DISCUSSION -----

When you choose to have MacTCP use a DDP/IP gateway to get a dynamic IP address, the address assignment is completely controlled by the DDP/IP gateway. Each DDP/IP gateway may work slightly differently in its address allocation and de-allocation schemes.

For example, the Shiva FastPath running KIP will de-allocate an allocated IP address if it cannot contact the AppleTalk based Macintosh for 5 minutes. It keeps an NBP ARP table which contains one AppleTalk net/node number entry for each dynamic IP address for which it has allocated an address. It then uses this list to contact the AppleTalk-based Macintosh once every 2 minutes to find out if it's still alive and active. If it cannot contact the AppleTalk-based Macintosh, it then frees the IP address for reuse.

I'm not sure what DDP/IP gateway you're using, but it should not be acting the way you describe.

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