

## DNS Zone Entry Common Error

A (Host) ?			
Host	Points To	TTL	
@	202.123.4.6	1 Hour	
WWW	192.168.1.2	1 Hour	
CName (Alias) ?			
Host	Points To	TTL	
ftp	@	1 Hour	
	@	1 Hour	
MX (Mail Exchanger) ?			
Priority	Host	Points To	TTL
0	@	mail.yourdomain.com	1 Hour

For the purposes of this tutorial, we are going to assume that the red is where the mail server resides and the blue is where the web site resides. The above zone file is **WRONG** in that the root or base IP record points to the mail server and not the web server. When a zone file is pointed in this fashion, only the www record will resolve to the website. Therefore, [www.yourdomain.com](http://www.yourdomain.com) will display the website while yourdomain.com will display an error because it points to the mail server and not the web server.

Simply adding or changing the www record will not correctly point the website and will actual cause issues with search engines and SEO.

## Correct DNS Zone Entry

A (Host) ?			
Host		Points To	TTL
@		192.168.1.2	1 Hour
mail		202.123.4.6	1 Hour
CName (Alias) ?			
Host		Points To	TTL
www		@	1 Hour
ftp		@	1 Hour
MX (Mail Exchanger) ?			
Priority	Host	Points To	TTL
0	@	mail.yourdomain.com	1 Hour

The correct way to point a website to one server and mail to another server is to make the root or base IP address the web server. Again for purposes of this tutorial, red is the mail server and blue is the web server.

Changing the host base IP address to the web server and adding the mail A record will allow both [www.yourdomain.com](http://www.yourdomain.com) and yourdomain.com to resolve and display correctly.

Of course there could be other changes needed such as webmail, terminal, etc., based on the original configuration of the zone file. **This is a very basic example and is not intended for actual use.** It is always a good idea to have an experienced DNS expert make zone file configuration changes.