

DHCP Services for EX Series Switches Overview

A Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) server can automatically allocate IP addresses and also deliver configuration settings to client hosts on a subnet.

DHCP is particularly useful for managing a pool of IP addresses among hosts. An IP address can be leased to a host for a limited period of time, allowing the DHCP server to share a limited number of IP addresses among a group of hosts that do not need permanent IP addresses.

DHCP, through the use of the automatic software download feature, can also be used to install software packages on Juniper Networks EX Series Ethernet Switches. Users can define a path to a software package on the DHCP server, and then the DHCP server communicates this path to EX Series switches acting as DHCP clients as part of the DHCP message exchange process. The DHCP clients that have been configured for automatic software download receive these messages and, when the software package name in the DHCP server message is different from that of the software package that booted the DHCP client switch, download and install the software package. See *Upgrading Software Using Automatic Software Download on EX Series Switches*.

To configure DHCP access service for an EX Series switch, you can use either the JUNOS command line interface (CLI) or the J-Web user interface.

For detailed information about configuring DHCP services, see the *JUNOS Software System Basics Configuration Guide* at <http://www.juniper.net/techpubs/software/junos/junos96/index.html>. The configuration for DHCP service on the EX Series switch includes the `dhcp` statement at the `[edit system services]` hierarchy level. The commands and statements are the same as those used to configure DHCP for Juniper Networks J Series Services Routers.

You can monitor DHCP services for the switch by using either operational-mode CLI commands or the J-Web interface.

- Related Topics**
- For information about configuring DHCP services with the CLI, see the *JUNOS Software System Basics Configuration Guide* at <http://www.juniper.net/techpubs/software/junos/junos96/index.html>.
 - [Configuring DHCP Services \(J-Web Procedure\)](#)
 - [Upgrading Software Using Automatic Software Download on EX Series Switches](#)
 - [Monitoring DHCP Services](#)

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