

**NAME**

ethers - Ethernet address to IP number database

**DESCRIPTION**

`/etc/ethers` contains 48 bit Ethernet addresses and their corresponding IP numbers, one line for each IP number:

*Ethernet-address IP-number*

The two items are separated by any number of SPACE and/or TAB characters. A# at the beginning of a line starts a comment which extends to the end of the line. The *Ethernet-address* is written as *xx:xx:xx:xx*, where *x* is a hexadecimal number between **0** and **ff** which represents one byte of the address, which is in network byte order (big-endian). The *IP-number* may be a host-name which can be resolved by DNS or a dot separated number.

**EXAMPLES**

08:00:20:00:61:CA pal

**FILES**

`/etc/ethers`

**SEE ALSO**

[rarp\(8\)](#)