

# Lesson 8: Configuring DNS Zones

MOAC 70-411: Administering  
Windows Server 2012

# Overview

- Exam Objective 3.1: Configure DNS Zones
- Understanding DNS
- Configuring and Managing DNS Zones
- Using the Dnscmd Command to Manage Zones

# Understanding DNS

## Lesson 8: Configuring DNS Zones

# Understanding DNS

- **Domain Name System (DNS)** is a naming service used by TCP/IP networks and is an essential service used by the Internet.
- Translates URLs to IP addresses.
- Early TCP/IP networks performed name resolution using hosts files stored locally on each computer.

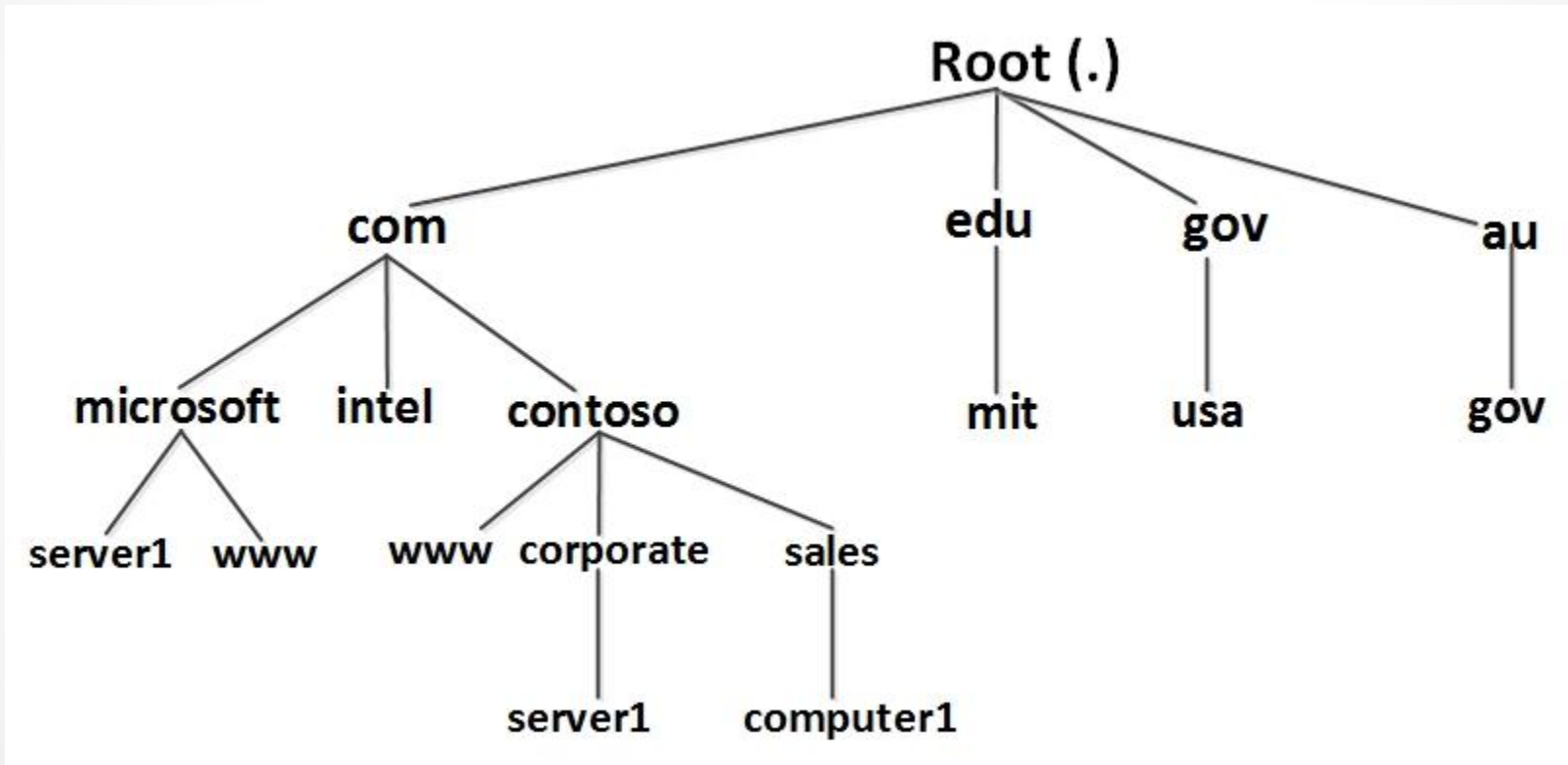
# Benefits of DNS

- Ease of use and simplicity
- Scalability
- Consistency

# Understanding DNS Names and Zones

- **Fully qualified domain names (FQDNs)** map a host name to an IP address.
- Example:
  - computer1.sales.microsoft.com represents an FQDN
  - computer1 host is located in the sales domain, which is located in the Microsoft second-level domain, which is located in the .com top-level domain

# DNS Hierarchy

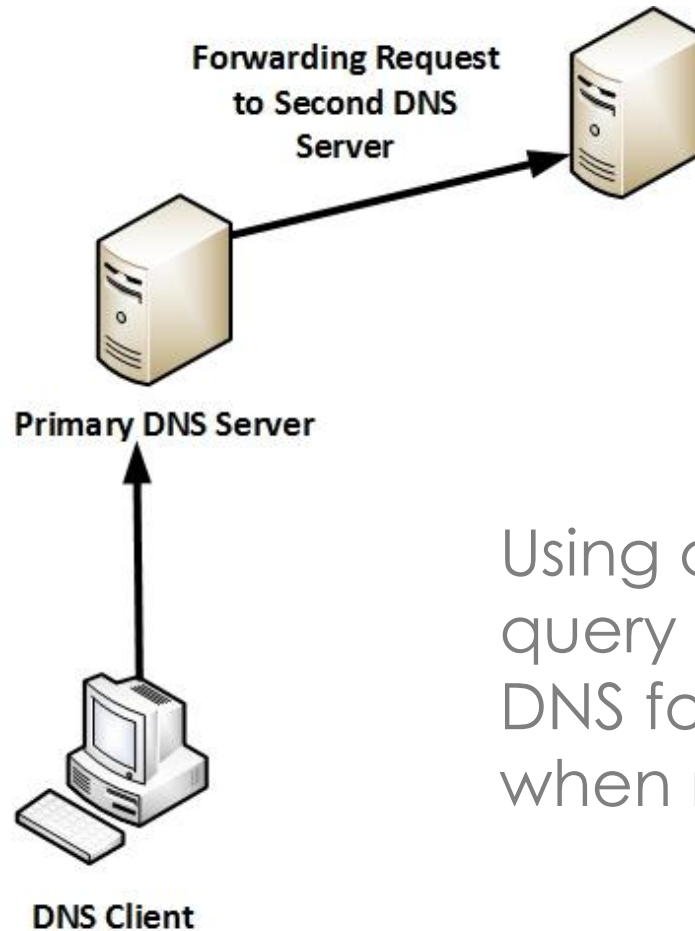


# DNS Terms

- Each node or leaf in the domain name tree is a **resource record (RR)**, which holds information associated with the domain name.
- **Top-level domains** consist of generic top-level domains and international country codes.
- **Second-level domains** are registered to individuals or organizations.
- A **host** is a specific computer or other network device in a domain.

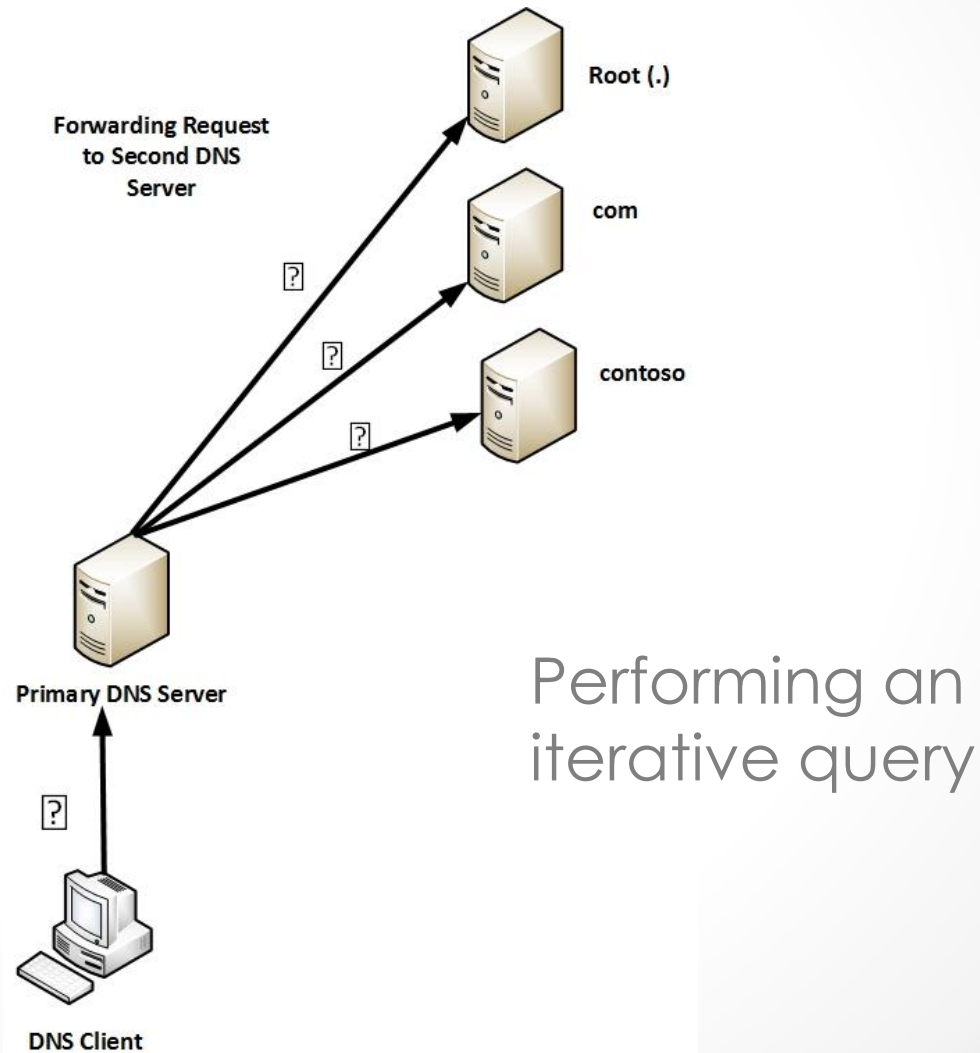


# Address Resolution Mechanism



Using a recursive query to perform DNS forwarding, when needed

# Address Resolution Mechanism



# Configuring and Managing DNS Zones

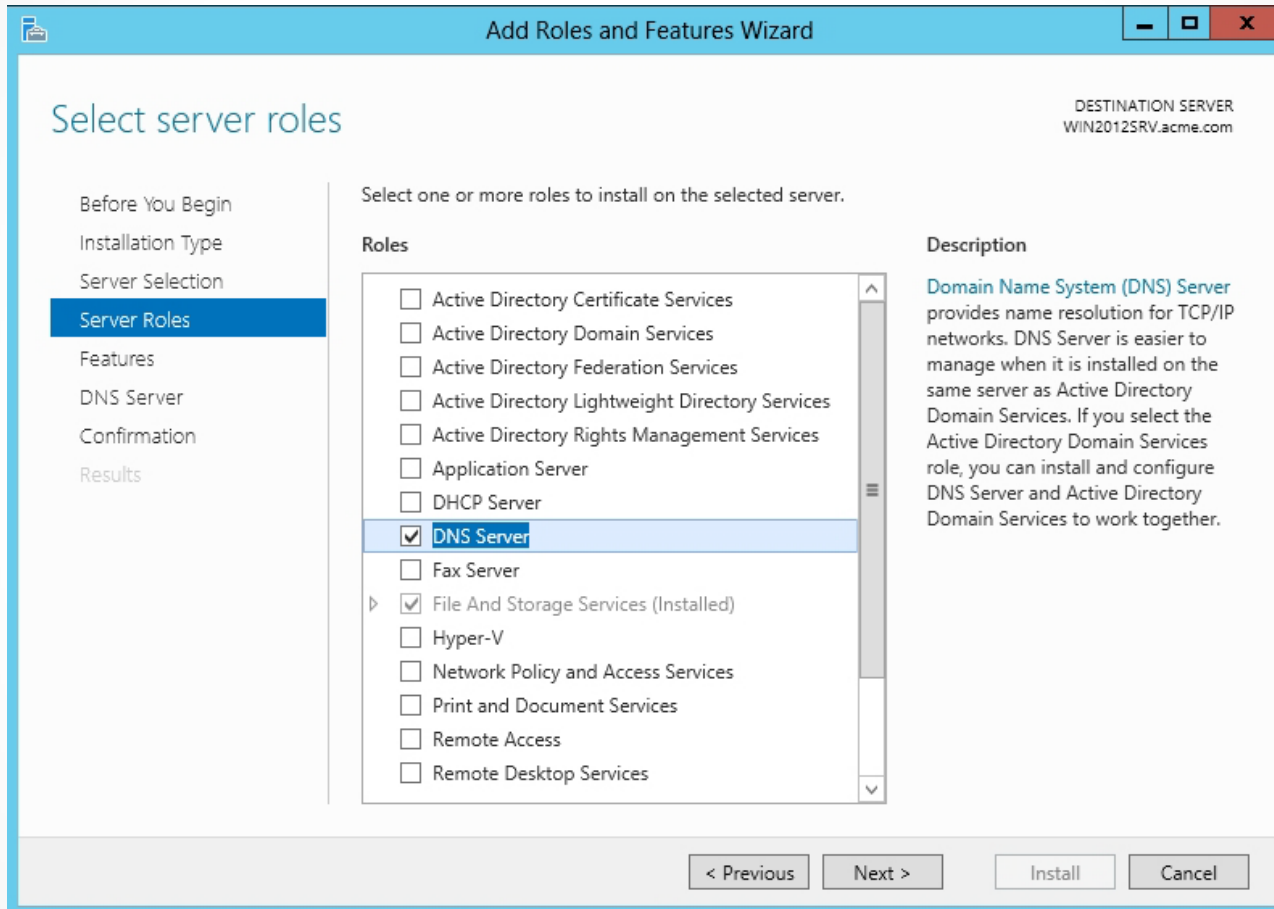
## Lesson 8: Configuring DNS Zones

# Deploying DNS

Steps in deploying DNS:

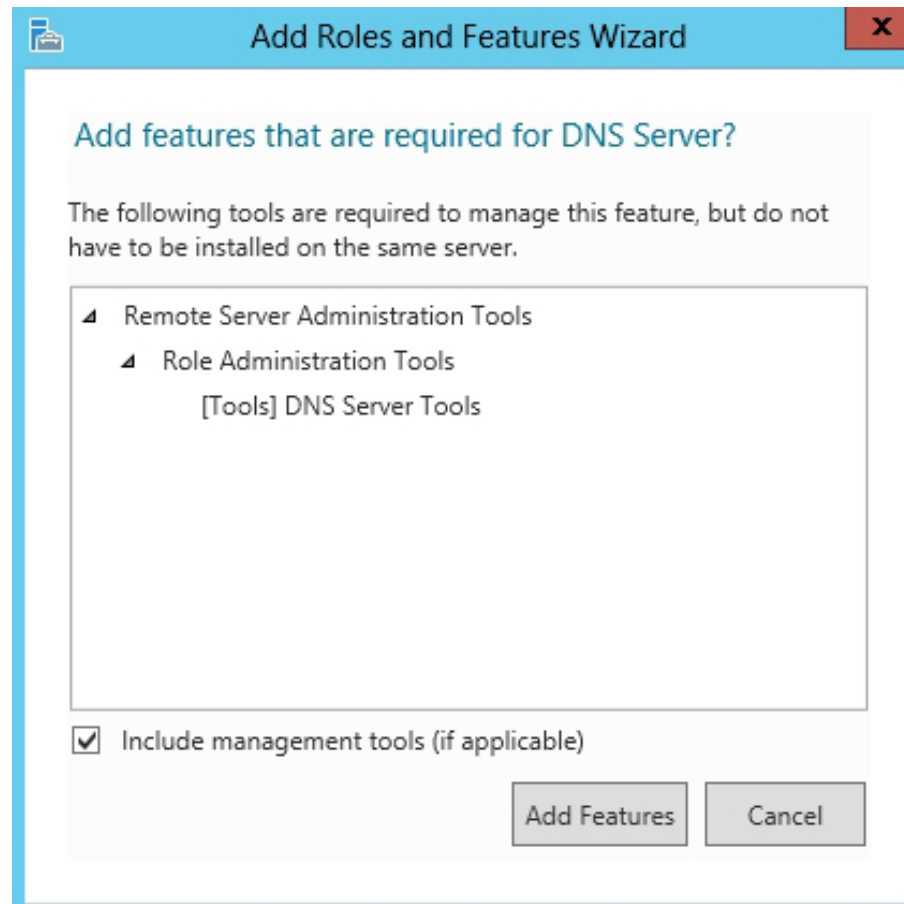
1. Install DNS on one or more servers.
2. Configure the DNS server, if necessary.
3. Create forward and reverse lookup zones.
4. Add resource records to the forward and reverse lookup zones.
5. Configure the clients to use the DNS servers.

# Install DNS



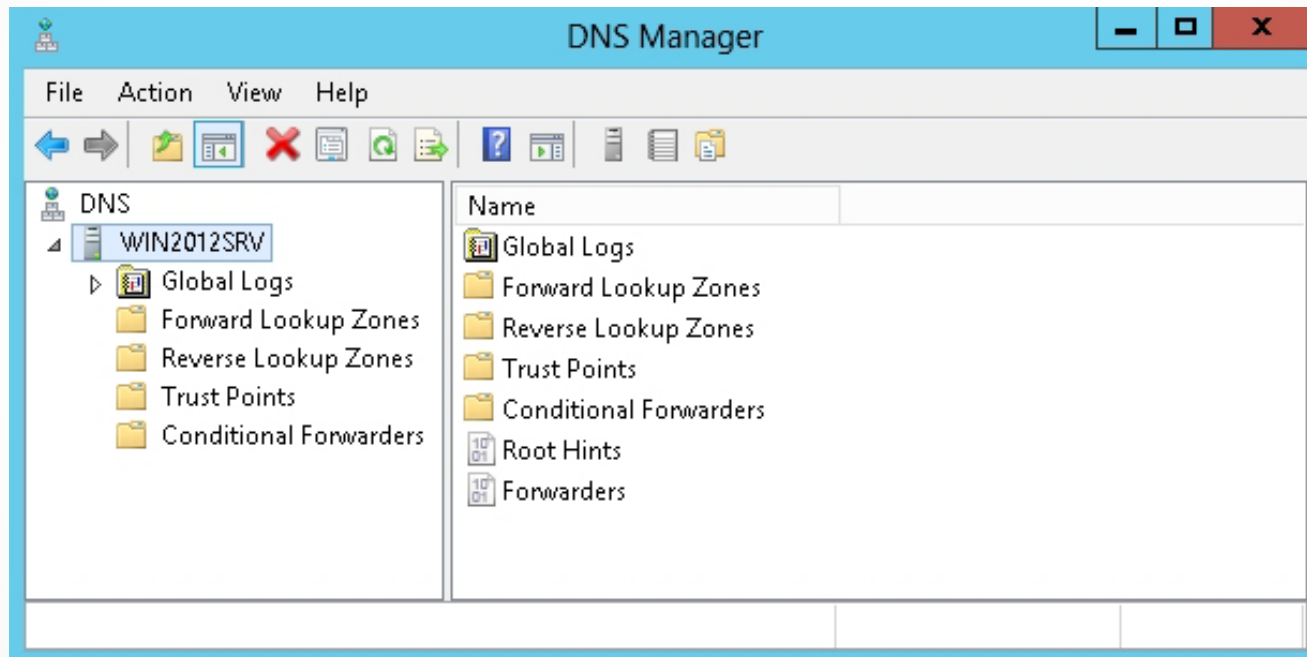
Selecting DNS Server to install

# Install DNS



Adding roles and features

# Install DNS



Viewing the DNS Manager console

# Primary and Secondary Zones

- **Primary zone:** Provides an authoritative, read-write copy of the zone.
- **Secondary zone:** Provides an authoritative, read-only copy of the primary zone.
- **Forward lookup zone:** Contains most of the resource records for a domain. Used primarily to resolve host names to IP addresses.
- **Reverse lookup zone:** Used to resolve IP addresses to host names.

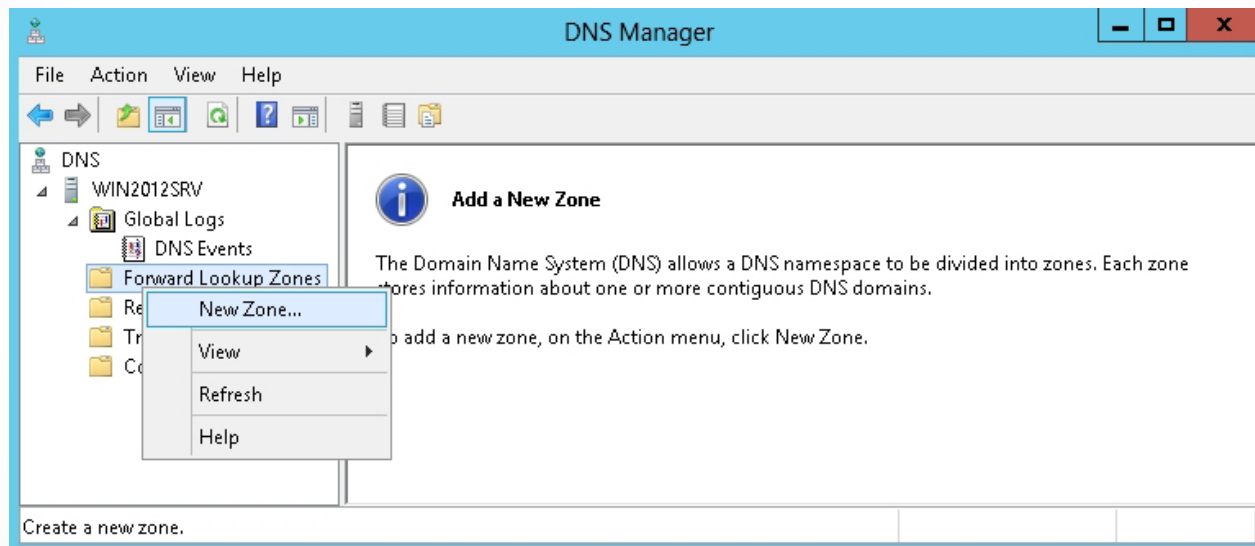


# Primary and Secondary Zones

A server can host all primary zones, all secondary zones, or a mix of primary and secondary zones as follows:

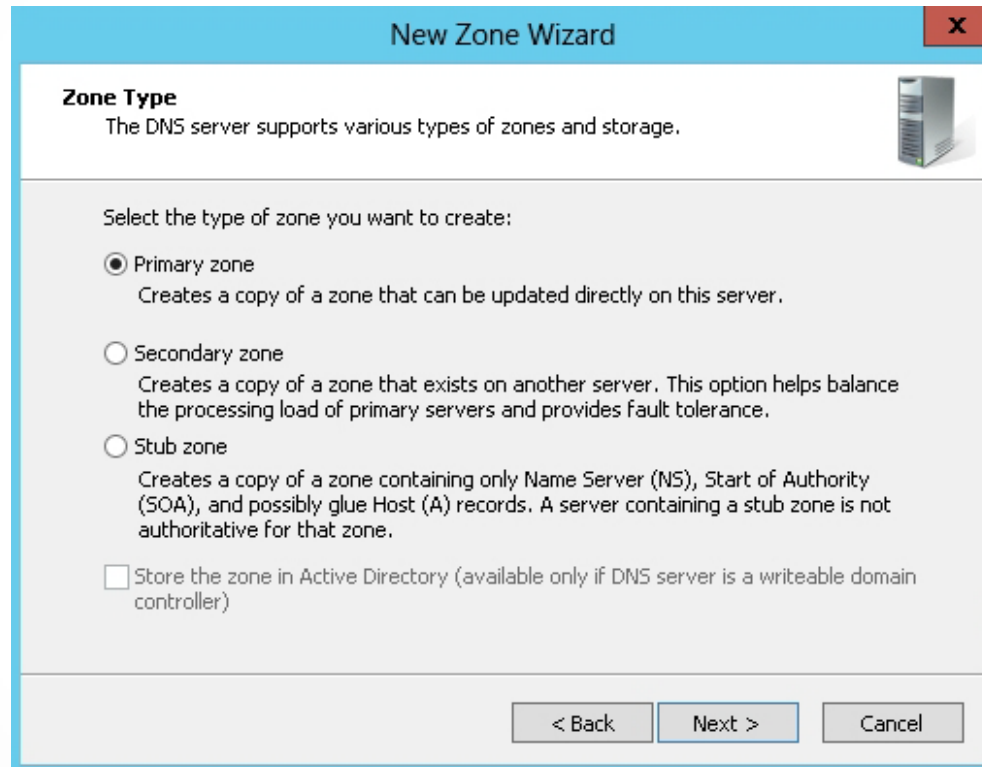
- **Primary name servers:** Servers that host primary zones.
- **Secondary name servers:** Servers that host secondary zones.

# Create a Standard Forward Lookup Primary Zone



Creating a new forward lookup zone

# Create a Standard Forward Lookup Primary Zone



Selecting the zone type

# Create a Standard Forward Lookup Primary Zone

**Zone Name**  
What is the name of the new zone?

The zone name specifies the portion of the DNS namespace for which this server is authoritative. It might be your organization's domain name (for example, microsoft.com) or a portion of the domain name (for example, newzone.microsoft.com). The zone name is not the name of the DNS server.

Zone name:

< Back    Next >    Cancel

Specifying the zone name

# Create a Standard Forward Lookup Primary Zone

**New Zone Wizard**

**Zone File**  
You can create a new zone file or use a file copied from another DNS server.

Do you want to create a new zone file or use an existing file that you have copied from another DNS server?

Create a new file with this file name:  
contoso.com.dns

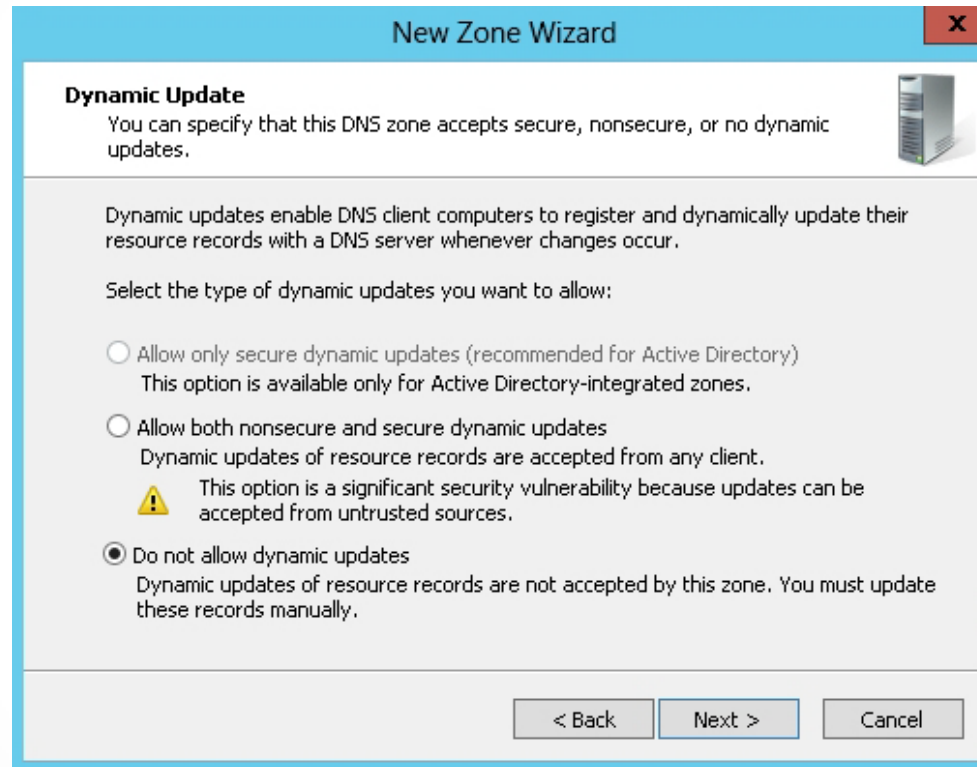
Use this existing file:  
[Empty text box]

To use this existing file, ensure that it has been copied to the folder %SystemRoot%\system32\dns on this server, and then click Next.

< Back   Next >   Cancel

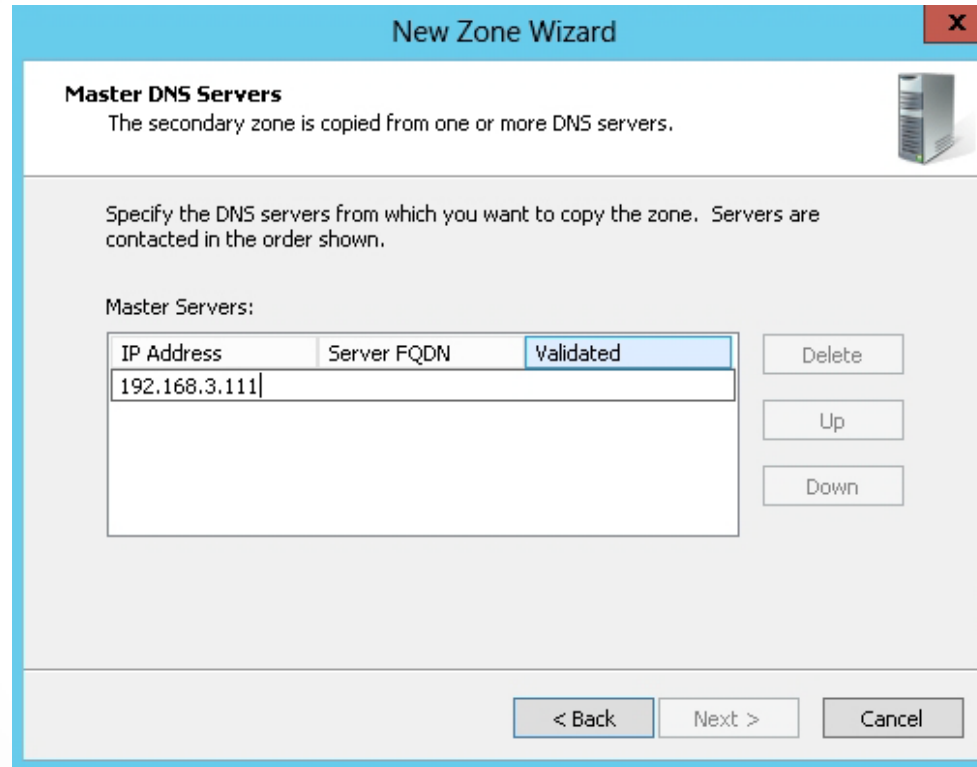
Creating a zone file

# Create a Standard Forward Lookup Primary Zone



Specifying Dynamic Update settings

# Create a Standard Forward Lookup Secondary Zone

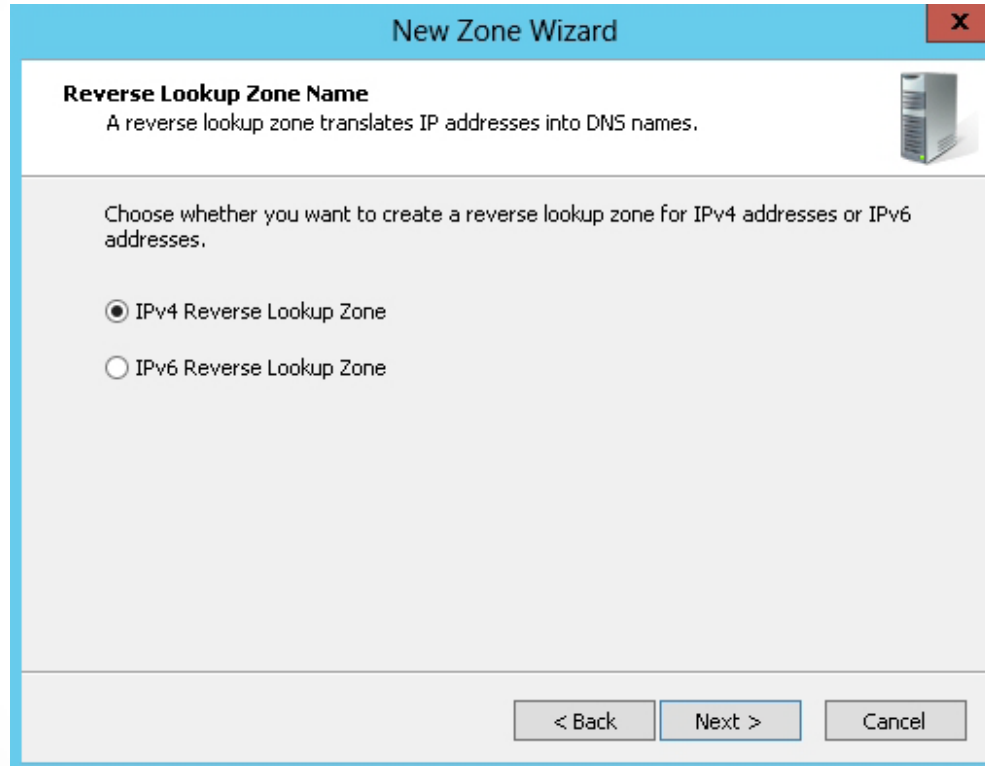


The screenshot shows a window titled "New Zone Wizard" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The main heading is "Master DNS Servers" with a sub-heading "The secondary zone is copied from one or more DNS servers." and a server rack icon. Below this, it says "Specify the DNS servers from which you want to copy the zone. Servers are contacted in the order shown." The "Master Servers:" section contains a table with three columns: "IP Address", "Server FQDN", and "Validated". The first row has the IP address "192.168.3.111" in the "IP Address" column. To the right of the table are three buttons: "Delete", "Up", and "Down". At the bottom of the window are three buttons: "< Back", "Next >", and "Cancel".

IP Address	Server FQDN	Validated
192.168.3.111		

Entering the IP address on the Master DNS Servers page

# Create a Standard Reverse Lookup Primary Zone for an IPv4 Subnet



Selecting the IPv4 reverse lookup zone type



# Create a Standard Reverse Lookup Primary Zone for an IPv4 Subnet

**New Zone Wizard**

**Reverse Lookup Zone Name**  
A reverse lookup zone translates IP addresses into DNS names.

To identify the reverse lookup zone, type the network ID or the name of the zone.

Network ID:  
192.168.1.

The network ID is the portion of the IP addresses that belongs to this zone. Enter the network ID in its normal (not reversed) order.

If you use a zero in the network ID, it will appear in the zone name. For example, network ID 10 would create zone 10.in-addr.arpa, and network ID 10.0 would create zone 0.10.in-addr.arpa.

Reverse lookup zone name:  
1.168.192.in-addr.arpa

< Back   Next >   Cancel

Specifying the reverse lookup zone name

# Create a Standard Reverse Lookup Primary Zone for an IPv4 Subnet



The screenshot shows a Windows dialog box titled "New Zone Wizard" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The dialog is divided into sections. The first section is titled "Zone File" and contains the text: "You can create a new zone file or use a file copied from another DNS server." To the right of this text is a small icon of a server rack. Below this is a question: "Do you want to create a new zone file or use an existing file that you have copied from another DNS server?". There are two radio button options. The first option, "Create a new file with this file name:", is selected. Below it is a text input field containing the text "1.168.192.in-addr.arpa.dns". The second option, "Use this existing file:", is unselected. Below it is an empty text input field. At the bottom of the dialog, there are three buttons: "< Back", "Next >", and "Cancel".

**Zone File**  
You can create a new zone file or use a file copied from another DNS server.

Do you want to create a new zone file or use an existing file that you have copied from another DNS server?

Create a new file with this file name:

1.168.192.in-addr.arpa.dns

Use this existing file:

To use this existing file, ensure that it has been copied to the folder %SystemRoot%\system32\dns on this server, and then click Next.

< Back   Next >   Cancel

Specifying the Zone File page

# Create a Standard Reverse Lookup Primary Zone for an IPv6 Subnet

**New Zone Wizard**

**Reverse Lookup Zone Name**  
A reverse lookup zone translates IP addresses into DNS names.

To name the reverse lookup zone, enter an IPv6 address prefix to auto generate the zone name(s). Depending on the prefix you enter, up to 8 zones may be created.

IPv6 Address Prefix:  
2001:0db8:ac10:fe01::/64

Reverse Lookup Zones

- 1.0.e.f.0.1.c.a.8.b.d.0.1.0.0.2.ip6.arpa

< Back   Next >   Cancel

Specifying the reverse lookup zone name for IPv6

# Active Directory-Integrated Zones

- DNS can be stored in and replicated with Active Directory, as an **Active Directory-integrated zone**.
- By using Active Directory-integrated zones, DNS follows a multi-master model:
  - Each server enables all DNS servers to have authoritative read-write copies of the DNS zone.
- A change made on one DNS server replicates to other DNS servers.

# Benefits of Using Active Directory to Store DNS

Fault  
Tolerance

Security

Efficient  
Replication

# Replication Scopes

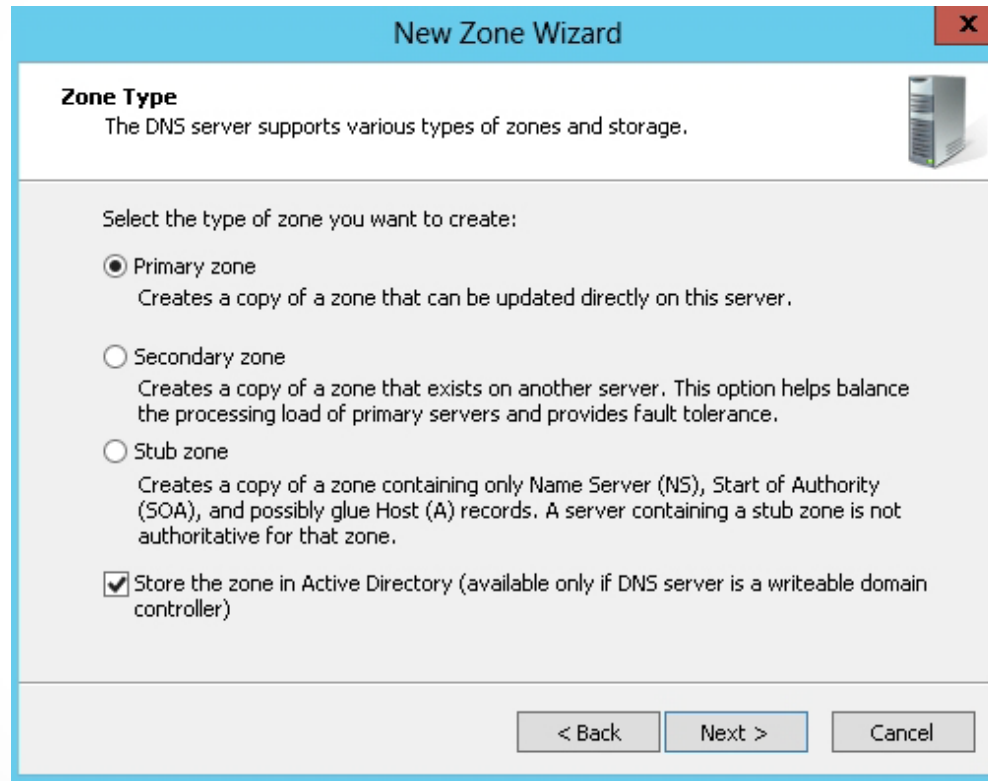


To all domain controllers in the domain

To all domain controllers that are DNS servers in the local domain (default)

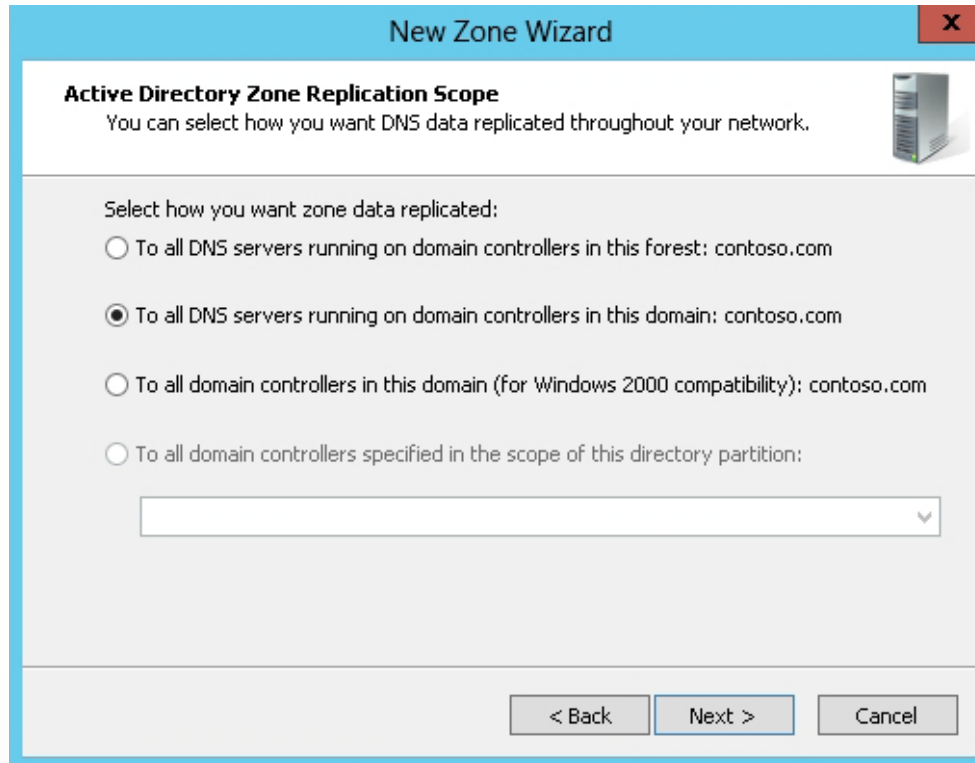
To all domain controllers that are also DNS servers in the entire forest

# Create an Active Directory-Integrated Standard Forward Lookup Primary Zone



Selecting the zone type

# Create an Active Directory-Integrated Standard Forward Lookup Primary Zone



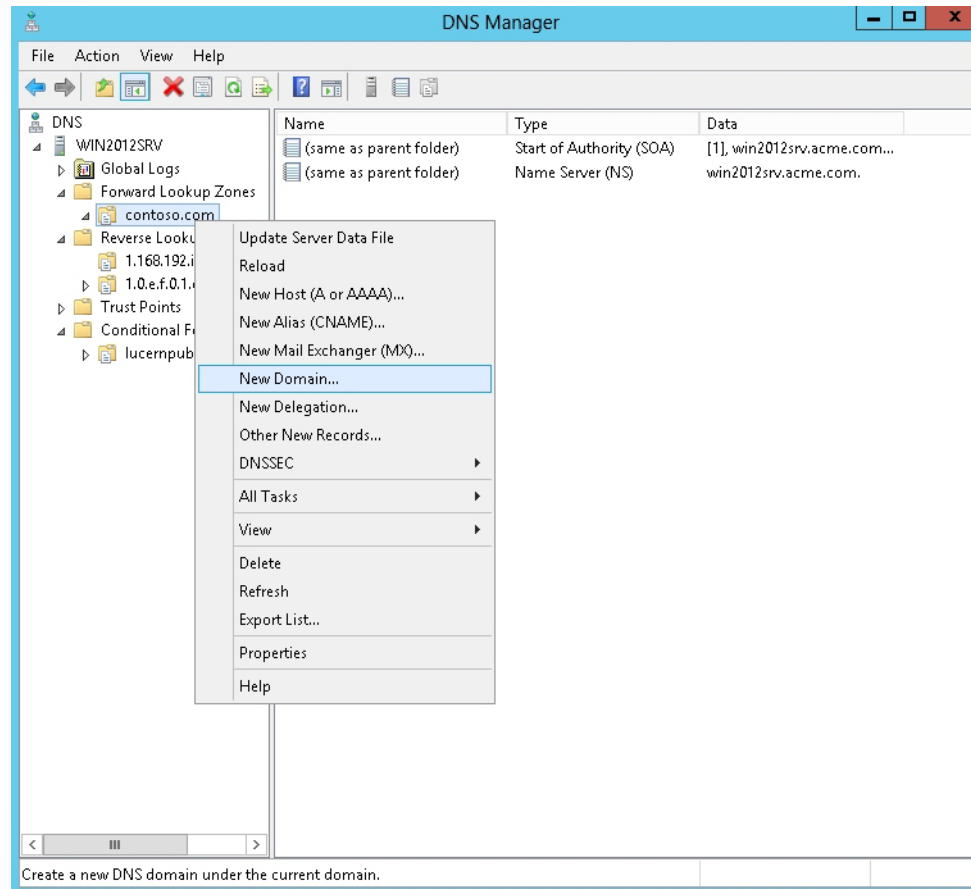
Specifying the Active Directory zone replication scope



# Configuring Zone Delegation

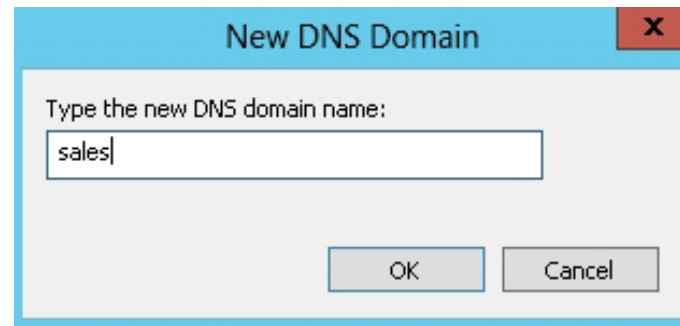
- A DNS **subdomain** is a child domain that is part of a parent domain and has the same domain suffix as the parent domain.
- Subdomains allow you to :
  - Assign unique names to be used by a particular department, subsidiary, function, or service within the organization.
  - Break up larger domains into smaller, more manageable domains.

# Create a Subdomain



Creating a new subdomain

# Create a Subdomain



Specifying the subdomain name

# Delegate a DNS Domain

**New Delegation Wizard**

**Delegated Domain Name**  
Authority for the DNS domain you supply will be delegated to a different zone.

Specify the name of the DNS domain you want to delegate.

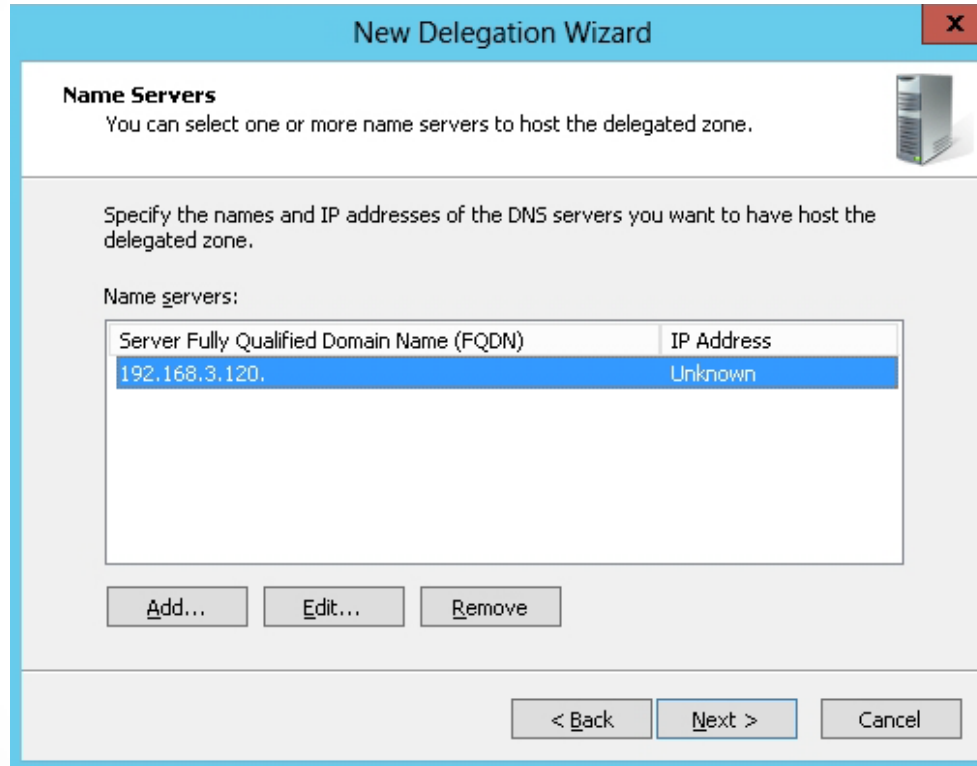
Delegated domain:

Fully qualified domain name (FQDN):

< Back   Next >   Cancel

Entering the name of the delegated subdomain

# Delegate a DNS Domain



The screenshot shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "New Delegation Wizard" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The main heading is "Name Servers" with a server icon to the right. Below the heading is the instruction: "You can select one or more name servers to host the delegated zone." The main area contains the text: "Specify the names and IP addresses of the DNS servers you want to have host the delegated zone." Below this is the label "Name servers:" followed by a table with two columns: "Server Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN)" and "IP Address". The table contains one row with the value "192.168.3.120" in the FQDN column and "Unknown" in the IP Address column. Below the table are three buttons: "Add...", "Edit...", and "Remove". At the bottom of the dialog are three buttons: "< Back", "Next >", and "Cancel".

**Name Servers**  
You can select one or more name servers to host the delegated zone.

Specify the names and IP addresses of the DNS servers you want to have host the delegated zone.

Name servers:

Server Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN)	IP Address
192.168.3.120	Unknown

Add... Edit... Remove

< Back Next > Cancel

Specifying name servers for the delegated zone

# Stub Zones

- **A *stub zone*:**
  - Is a copy of a zone that contains only necessary resource records in the master zone and acts as a pointer to the authoritative name server.
  - Allows the server to forward queries to the name server that is authoritative for the master zone without going up to the root name servers and working its way down to the server.

# Create a Stub Zone



**New Zone Wizard** [Close]

**Master DNS Servers**  
The stub zone is loaded from one or more master servers.

Specify the DNS servers from which you want to load the zone. A stub zone is loaded by querying the zone's master server for the SOA resource record, the NS resource records at the zone's root, and glue A resource records.

Master Servers:

IP Address	Server FQDN	Validated
<Click here to ...>		
192.168.3.110		

Use the above servers to create a local list of master servers

< Back   Next >   Cancel

Specifying the master DNS server for a stub zone

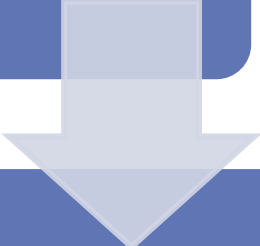
# Caching-Only Servers

- A ***caching-only server*** does not host any zones and is not authoritative for any domain.
- It receives client requests, and as the DNS servers fulfill DNS queries, the server adds the information to its cache.



# Configuring Caching-Only Servers

Install a DNS server on the server computer.

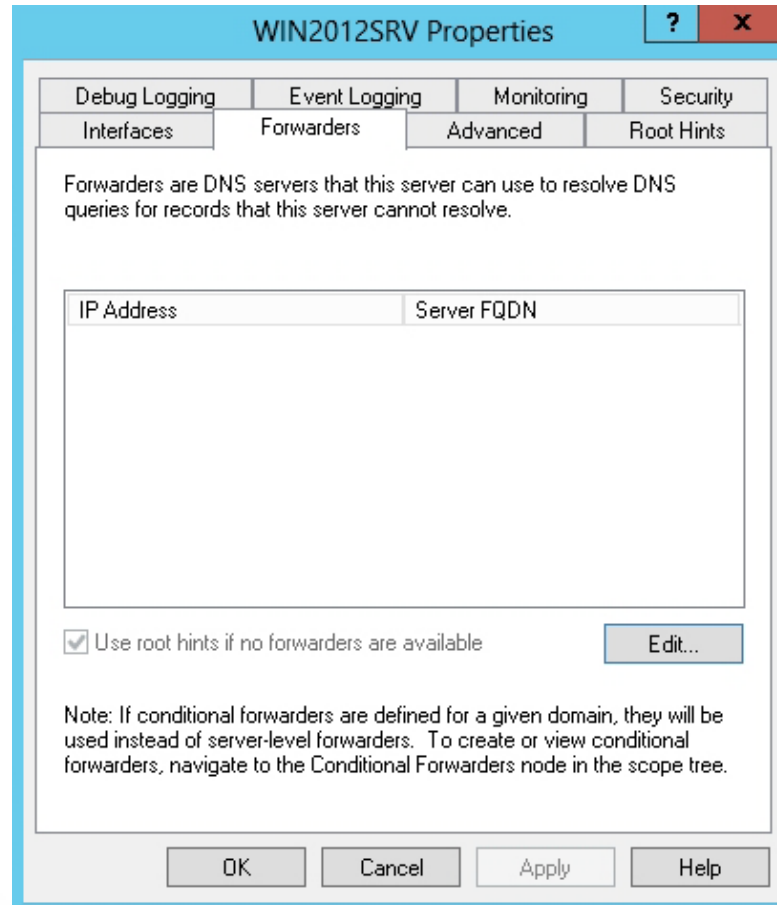


Verify the server root hints are configured and updated correctly.

# Configuring Forwarding/ Conditional Forwarding

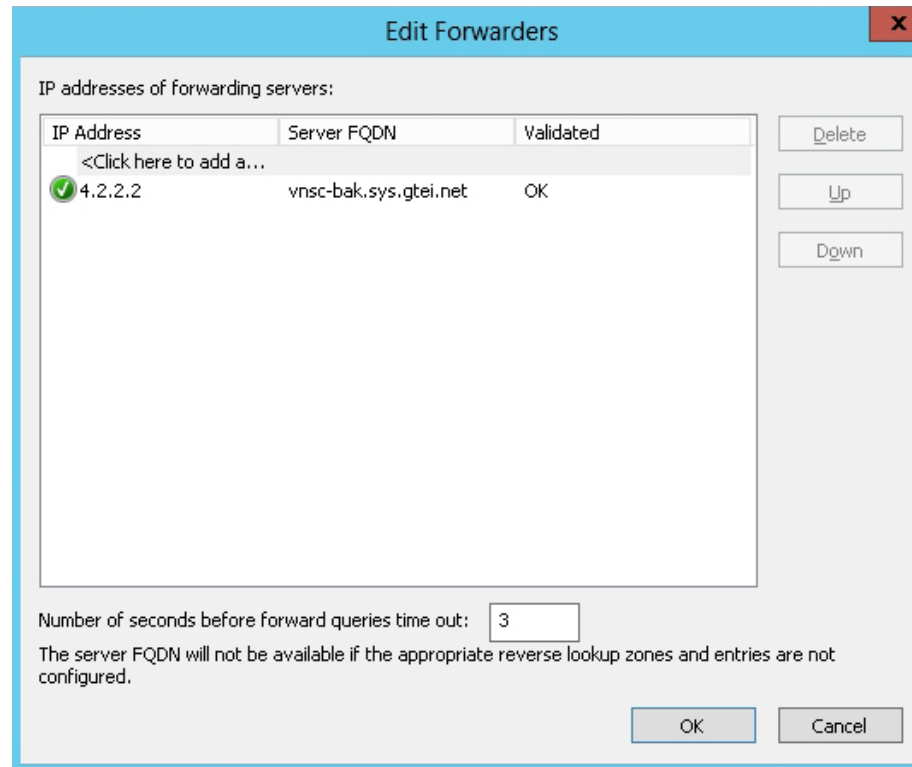
- When a client contacts a DNS server and the DNS server does not know the answer, it performs an iterative query to find the answer.
- DNS servers can be configured to be forwarded to another DNS server or a conditional forwarder based on the domain name queried.
- A **forwarder** controls name resolution queries and traffic.
  - Can improve the efficiency of name resolution on a network.

# Configure Forwarders



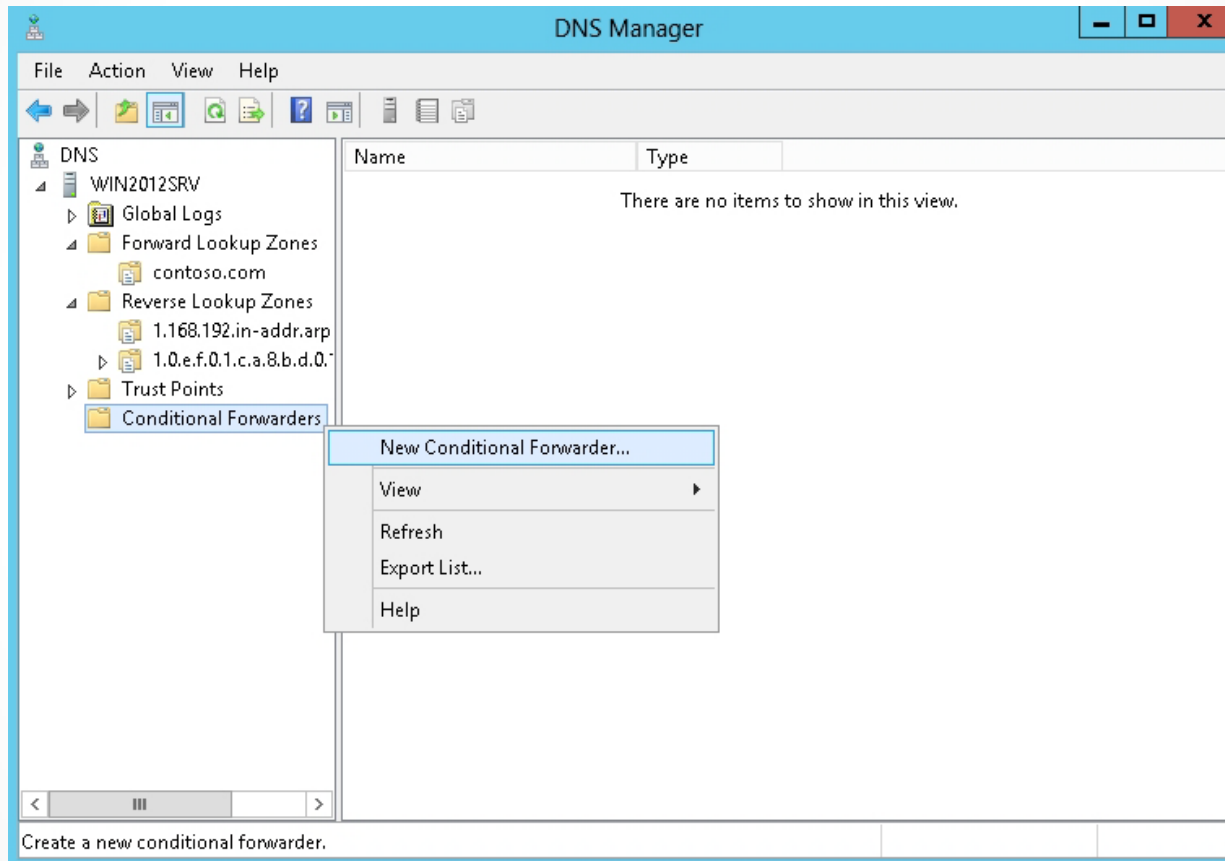
Selecting the Forwarders tab

# Configure Forwarders



Modifying the Forwarders list

# Configure Conditional Forwarders



Creating a conditional forwarder

# Configure Conditional Forwarders

**New Conditional Forwarder**

DNS Domain:  
lucernpublishing.com

IP addresses of the master servers:

IP Address	Server FQDN	Validated
192.168.3.1		

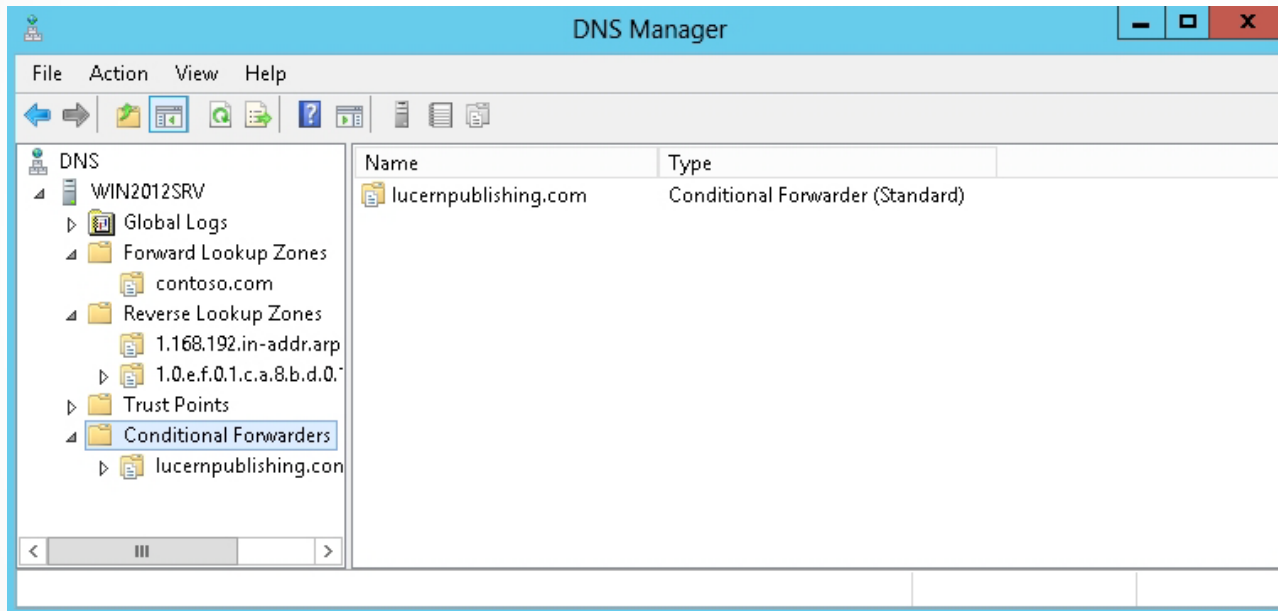
Store this conditional forwarder in Active Directory, and replicate it as follows:  
All DNS servers in this forest

Number of seconds before forward queries time out:

The server FQDN will not be available if the appropriate reverse lookup zones and entries are not configured.

Identifying the name and IP address  
of a conditional forwarder

# Configure Conditional Forwarders



Viewing the conditional forwarders

# Zone Transfers

Events that trigger a zone transfer:

- The initial transfer occurs when a secondary zone is created.
- The zone refresh interval expires.
- The DNS Server service is started at the secondary server.
- The master server notifies the secondary server that changes have been made to a zone.



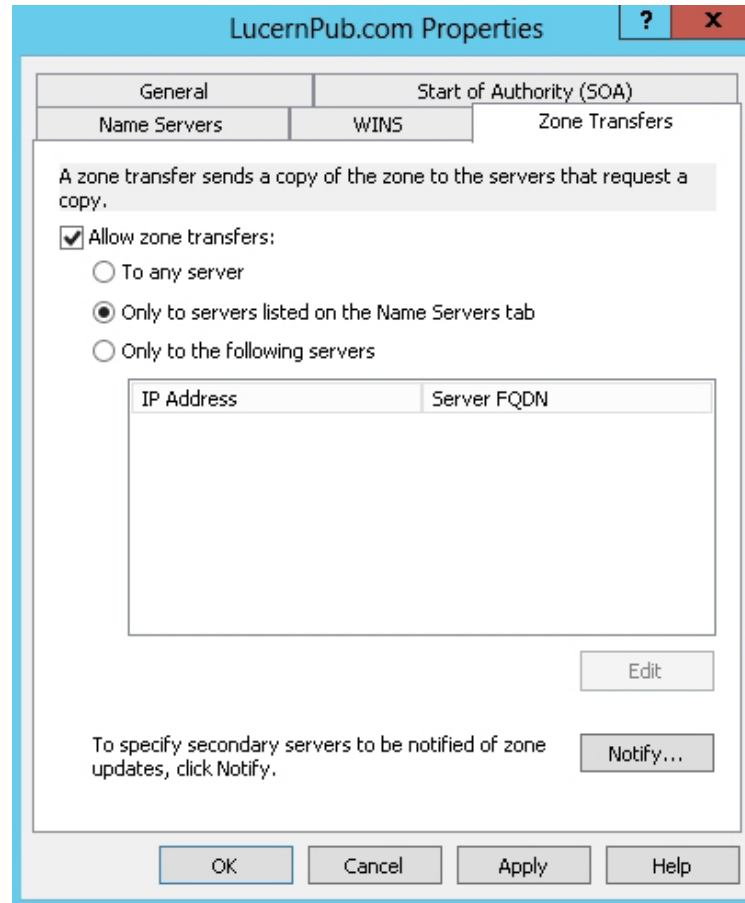
# Three Types of Zone Transfers

Full

Incremental

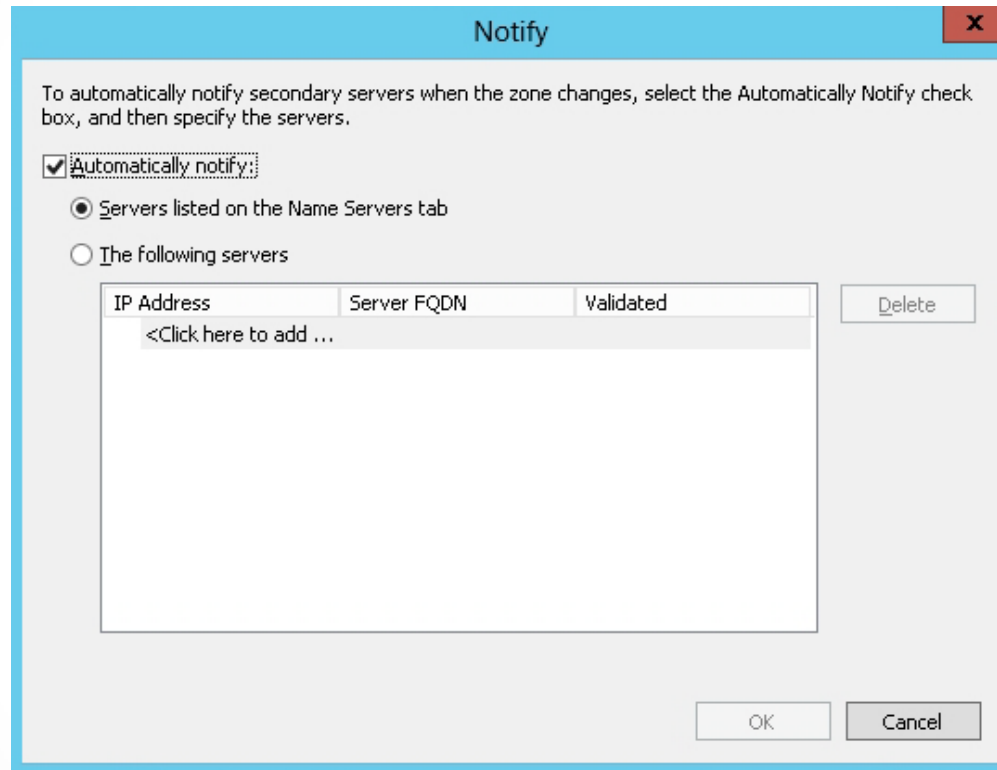
DNS Notify

# Configure Zone Transfer Settings



Viewing the Zone Transfers tab

# Configure Zone Transfer Settings



Configuring Notify options in the Notify dialog box

# Using the Dnscmd Command to Manage Zones

...

Lesson 8: Configuring DNS Zones

# dnscmd.exe Command

- Create, delete, and view zones and records
- Reset server and zone properties
- Perform zone maintenance operations, such as updating the zone, reloading the zone, refreshing the zone, writing the zone back to a file or to Active Directory, and pausing or resuming the zone
- Clear the cache
- Stop and start the DNS service
- View statistics

# dnscmd.exe Examples

To view the zones on a DNS server called server1.contoso.com:

```
dnscmd server1.contoso.com /enumzones
```

To add an Active Directory-integrated primary zone called support.contoso.com on server1.contoso.com, execute the following command:

```
dnscmd server1.contoso.com /zoneadd  
support.contoso.com /dsprimary
```

# dnscmd.exe Examples

To create a secondary zone called support.contoso.com on server1.contoso.com, perform the following command from the primary zone located at 10.0.0.2:

```
dnscmd server1.contoso.com /zoneadd  
support.contoso.com /secondary 10.0.0.2
```

To delete the secondary zone called support.contoso.com:

```
dnscmd server1.contoso.com /zonedeleter  
support.contoso.com
```

# Lesson Summary

- Domain Name System (DNS) is a naming service used by TCP/IP network and is an essential service used by the Internet. DNS servers are often referred to as name servers.
- Each node or leaf in the tree is a resource record (RR), which holds information associated with the domain name.
- The primary zone provides an authoritative, read-write copy of the zone while the secondary zone provides an authoritative, read-only copy of the primary zone.
- A forward lookup zone contains most of the resource records for a domain and is used primarily to resolve host names to IP addresses.
- A reverse lookup zone is used to resolve IP addresses to host names.
- Today, DNS can be stored in and replicated with Active Directory as an Active Directory-integrated zone.
- A stub zone is a copy of a zone that contains only necessary resource records (SOA, NS, and an A record) in the master zone and acts as a pointer to authoritative name server.



# Lesson Summary

- A forwarder helps control name resolution queries and traffic, which can improve the efficiency of name resolution for the computers in your network.
- Conditional forwarding expands on the idea of forwarding, where you forward those queries to other DNS servers based on the DNS domain names in the query.
- Zone transfers are the complete or partial transfer of DNS data from a zone on a DNS server to another DNS server.
- A full zone transfer (AXFR), which copies the entire zone, is used when you first bring a new DNS secondary server online for an existing zone. With large zones, full transfers can be very time-consuming and resource extensive.
- An incremental zone transfer (IXFR) retrieves only resource records that have changed within a zone.
- The DNS Notify method allows the primary DNS server to use a “push” mechanism to notify secondary servers that it has been updated and that the resource records need to be transferred.
- The `dnscmd.exe` command allows an administrator to display and change properties of the DNS servers, zones, and resource records.

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