

## How to Assign a Static IP Address in Windows 7, Vista, XP

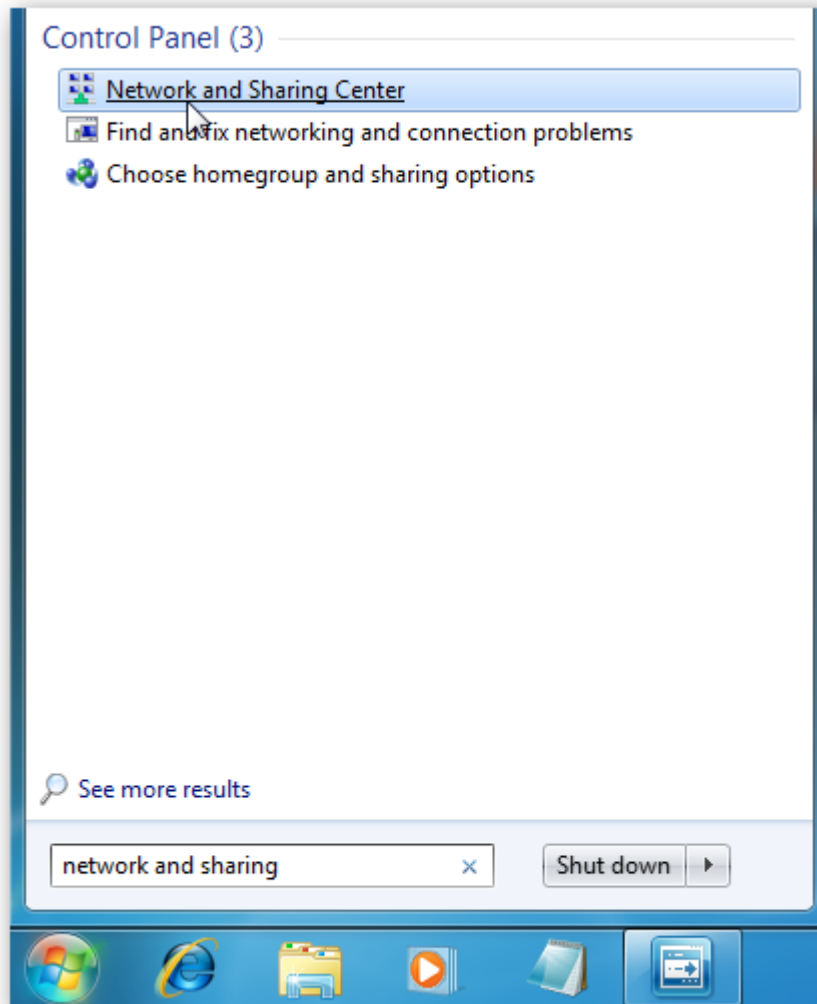
When organizing your home network it's easier to assign each computer it's own IP address than using DHCP. Here we will take a look at doing it in XP, Vista, and Windows 7.

If you have a home network with several computes and devices, it's a good idea to assign each of them a specific address. If you use DHCP (*Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol*), each computer will request and be assigned an address every time it's booted up. When you have to do troubleshooting on your network, it's annoying going to each machine to figure out what IP they have.

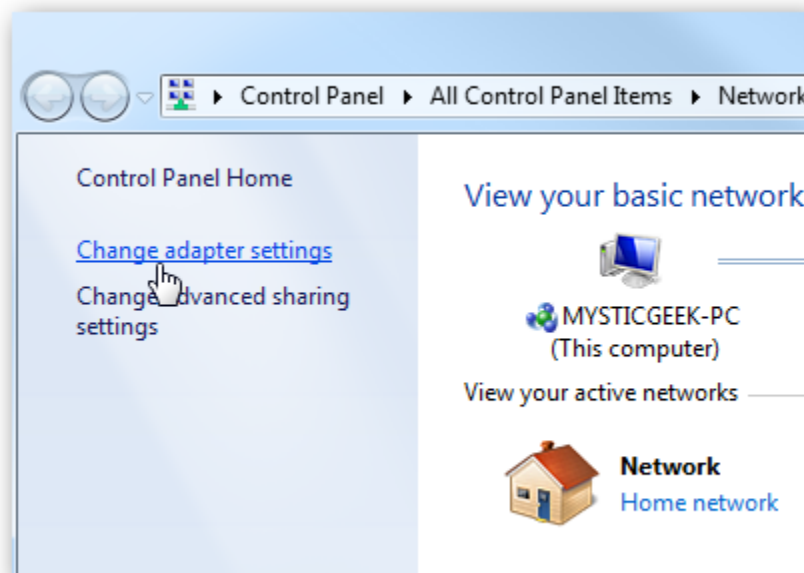
Using Static IPs prevents address conflicts between devices and allows you to manage them more easily. Assigning IPs to Windows is essentially the same process, but getting to where you need to be varies between each version.

### Windows 7

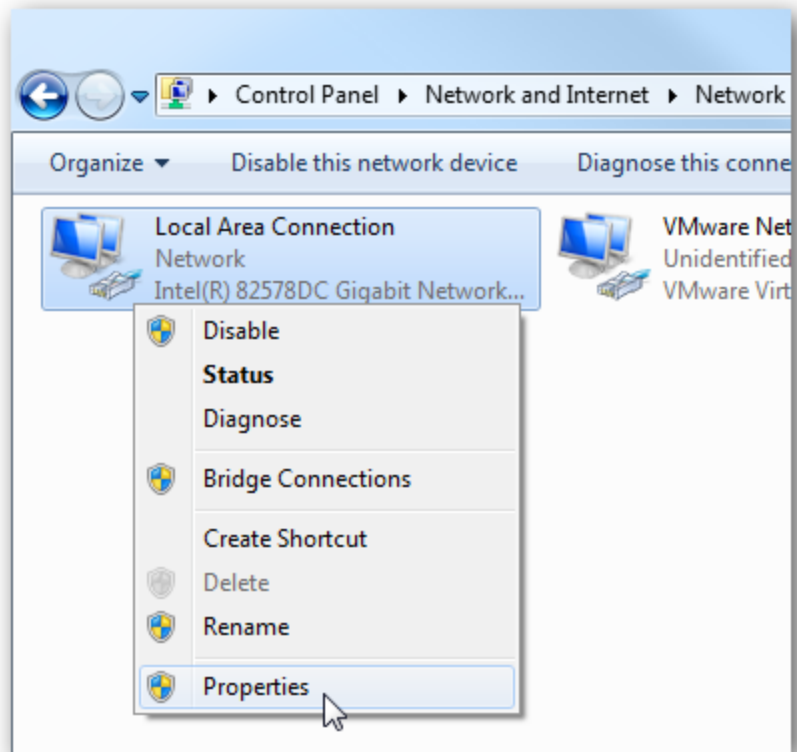
To change the computer's IP address in Windows 7, type *network and sharing* into the Search box in the Start Menu and select Network and Sharing Center when it comes up.



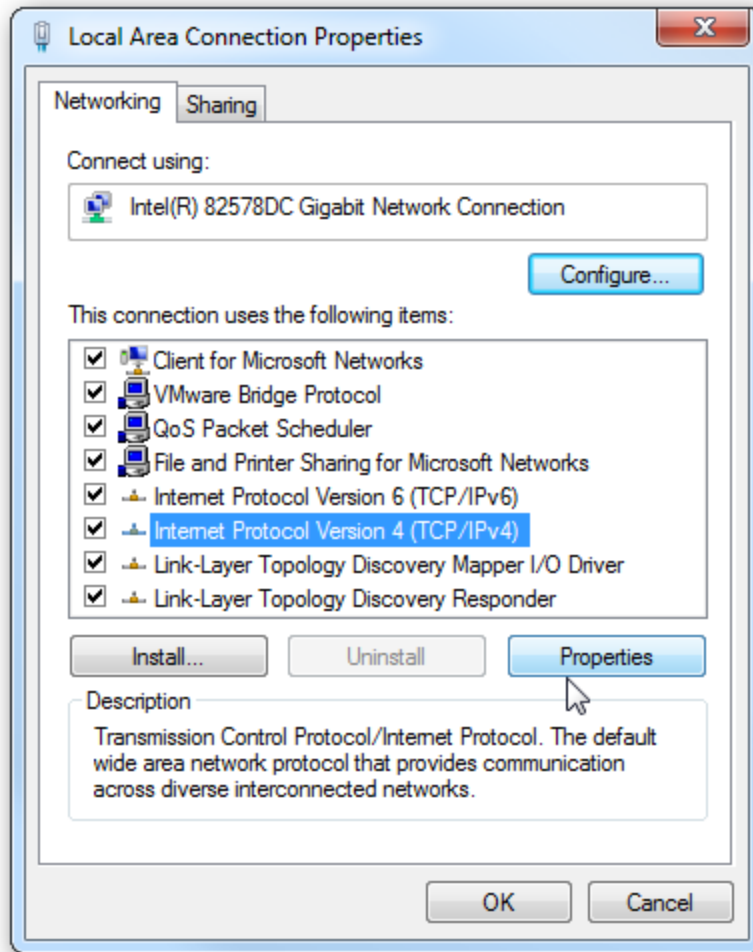
Then when the Network and Sharing Center opens, click on *Change adapter settings*.



Right-click on your local adapter and select Properties.

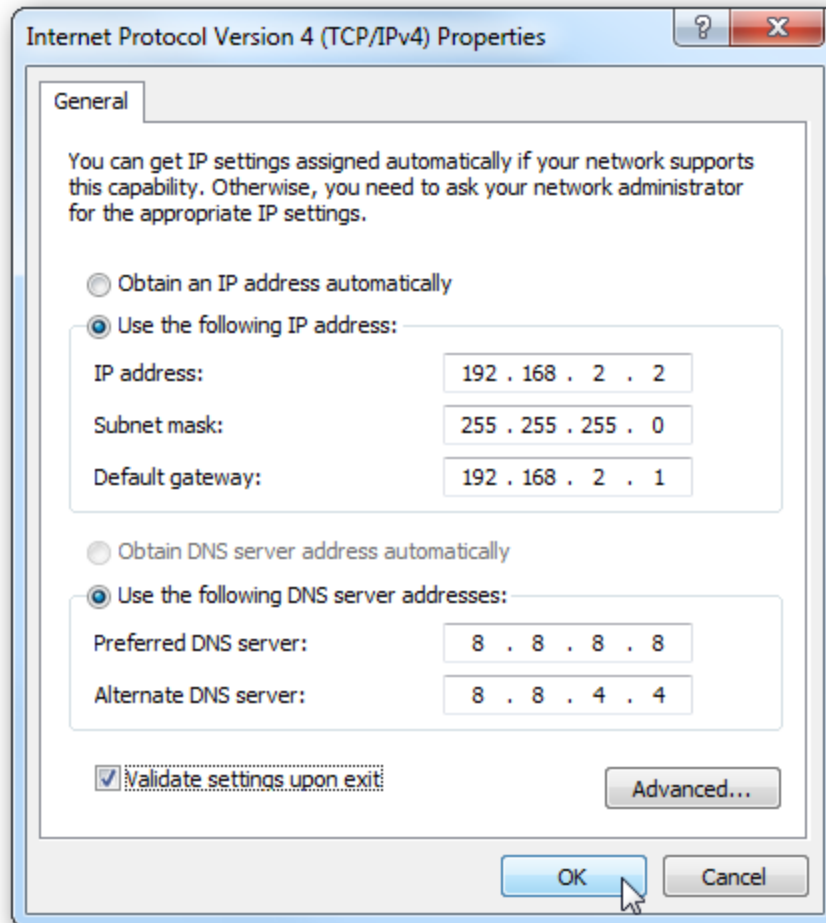


In the Local Area Connection Properties window highlight *Internet Protocol Version 4 (TCP/IPv4)* then click the Properties button.

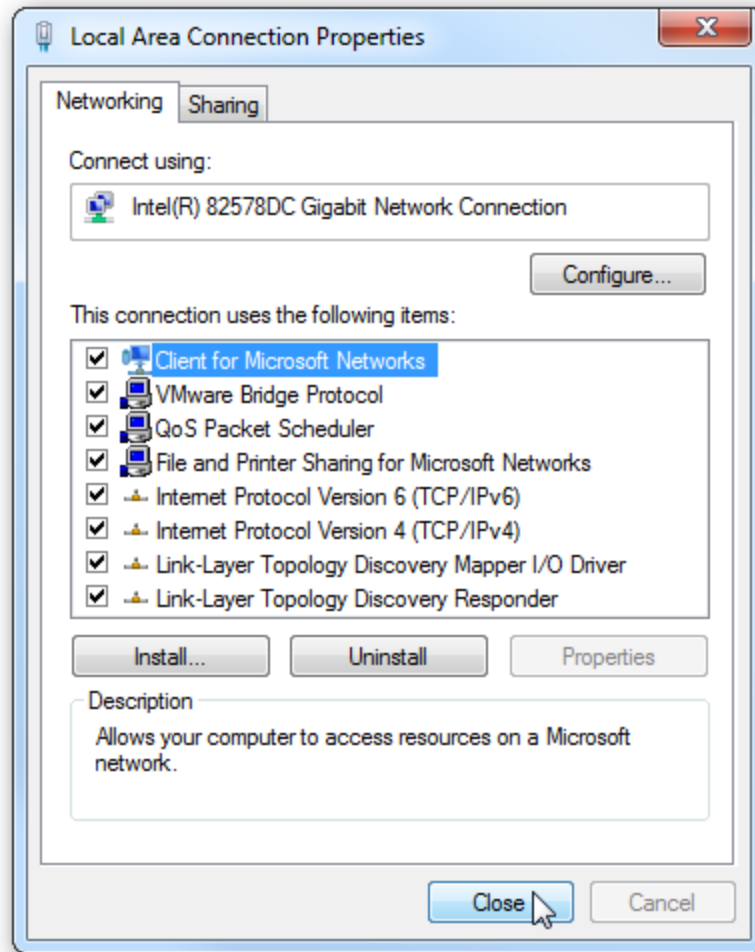


Now select the radio button *Use the following IP address* and enter in the correct IP, Subnet mask, and Default gateway that corresponds with your network setup. Then enter your Preferred and Alternate DNS server addresses. Here we're on a home network and using a simple Class C network configuration and Google DNS.

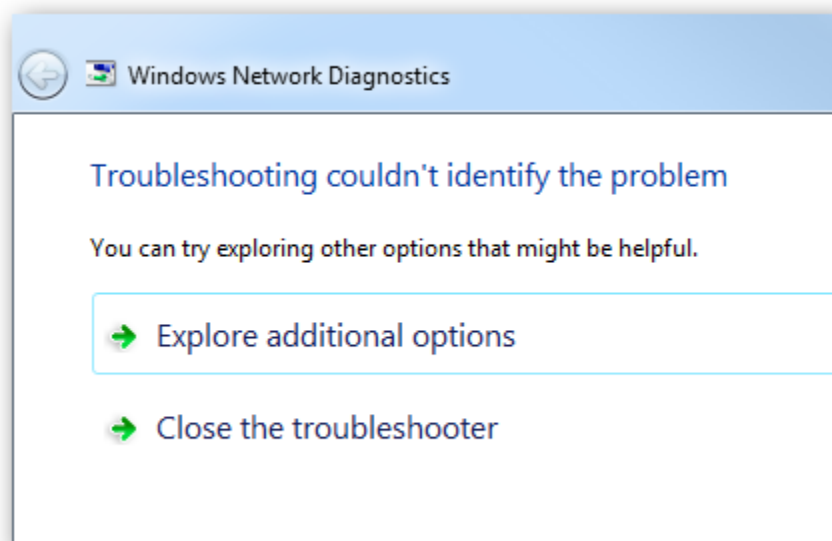
Check *Validate settings upon exit* so Windows can find any problems with the addresses you entered. When you're finished click OK.



Now close out of the Local Area Connections Properties window.



Windows 7 will run network diagnostics and verify the connection is good. Here we had no problems with it, but if you did, you could run the network troubleshooting wizard.



Now you can open the command prompt and do an *ipconfig* to see the network adapter settings have been successfully changed.

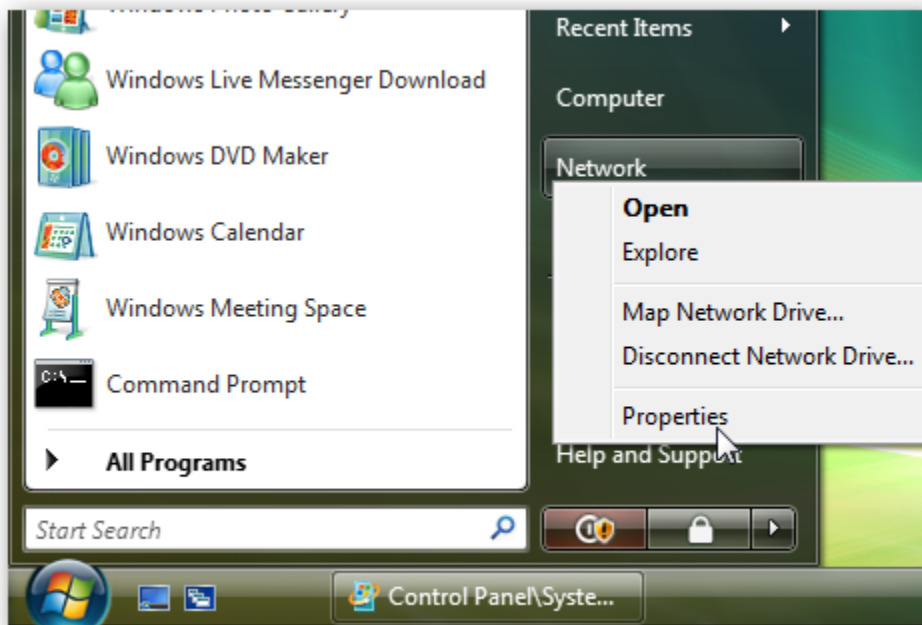
```
Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection:

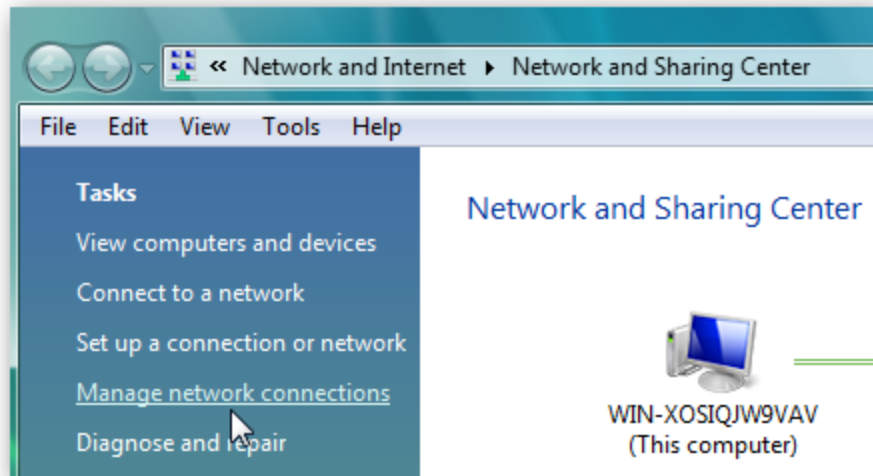
    Connection-specific DNS Suffix  . : 
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::11e3:1d23:a...
    IPv4 Address. . . . .             : 192.168.2.2
    Subnet Mask . . . . .            : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . .        : 192.168.2.1
```

## Windows Vista

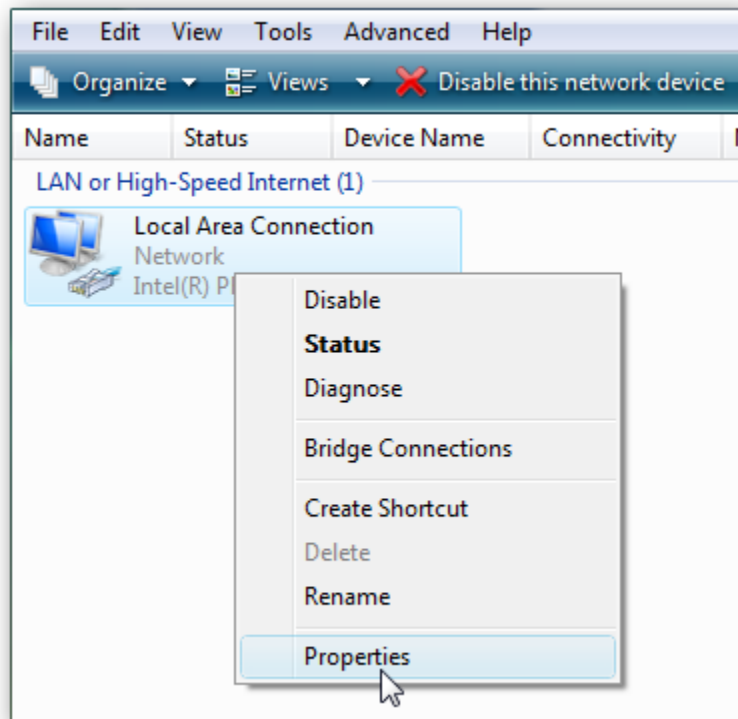
Changing your IP from DHCP to a Static address in Vista is similar to Windows 7, but getting to the correct location is a bit different. Open the Start Menu, right-click on Network, and select Properties.



The Network and Sharing Center opens...click on *Manage network connections*.

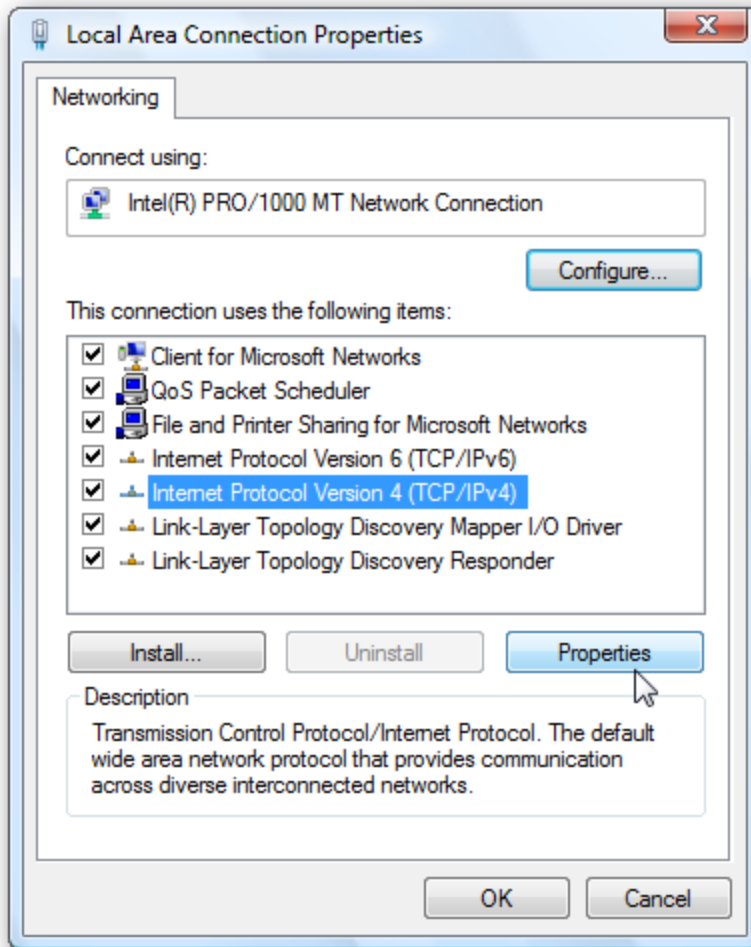


Right-click on the network adapter you want to assign an IP address and click Properties.

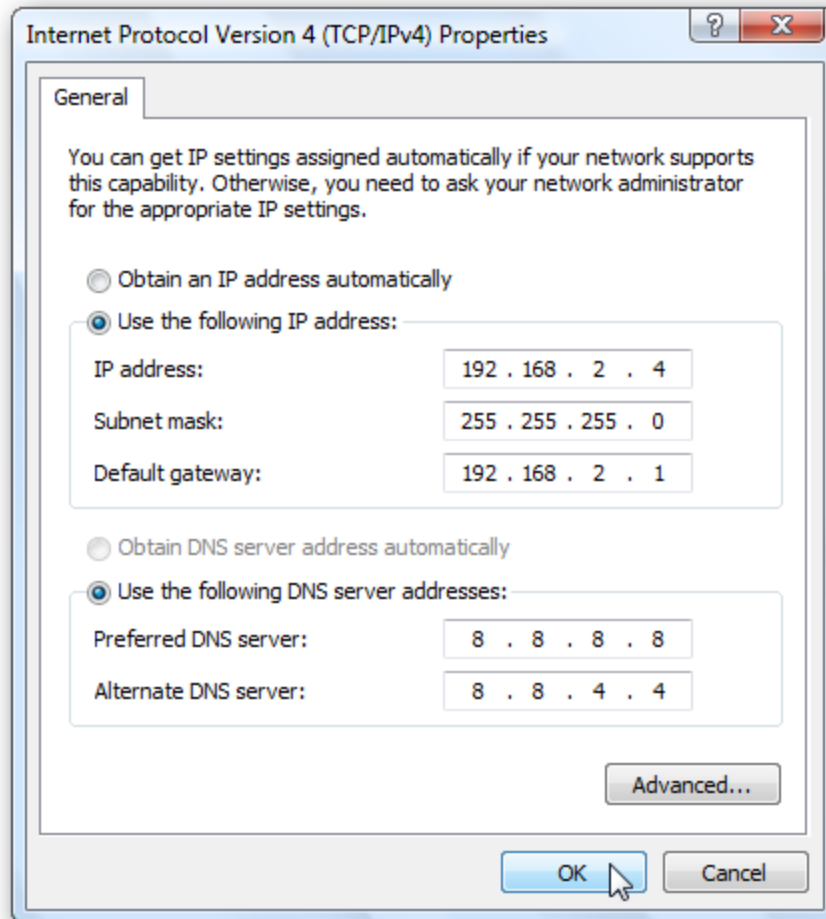


Highlight *Internet Protocol Version 4 (TCP/IPv4)* then click the Properties button.

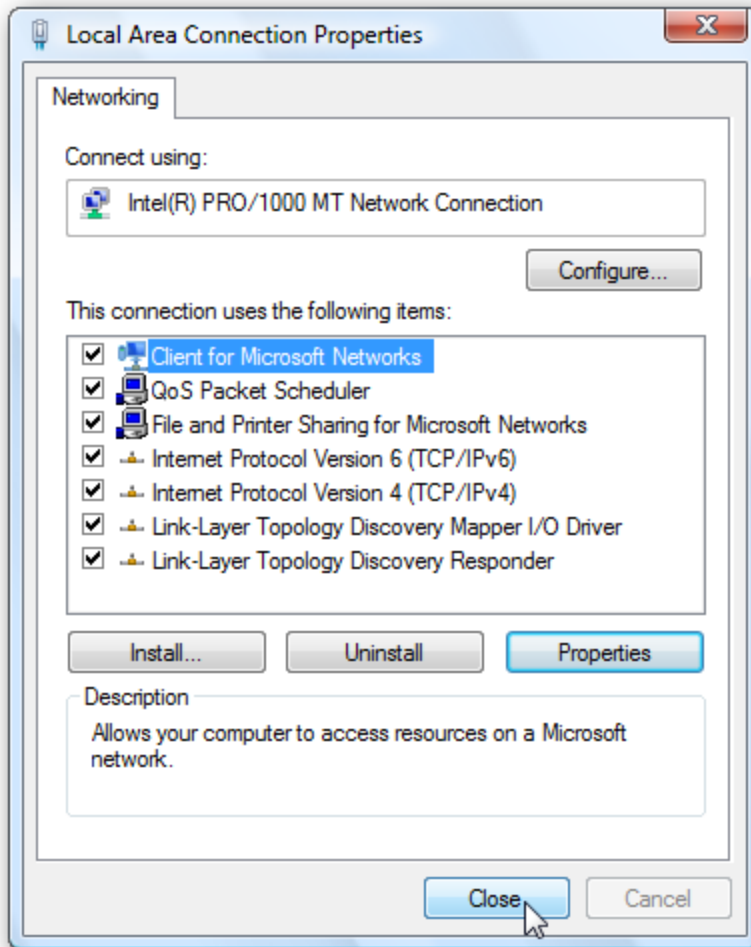




Now change the IP, Subnet mask, Default Gateway, and DNS Server Addresses. When you're finished click OK.



You'll need to close out of Local Area Connection Properties for the settings to go into effect.



Open the Command Prompt and do an *ipconfig* to verify the changes were successful.

```
C:\Users\mysticgeek>ipconfig
Windows IP Configuration

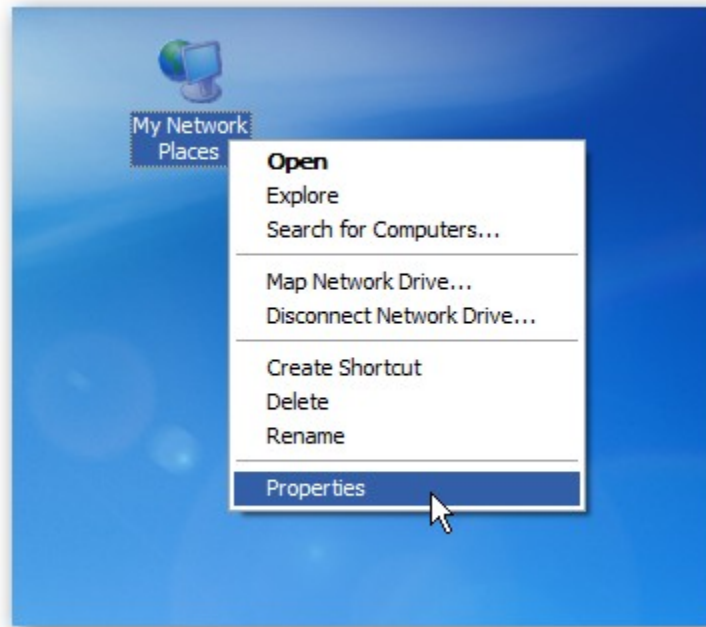
Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . . : 
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::b1b1:6eba:
    IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.2.4
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.2.1
```

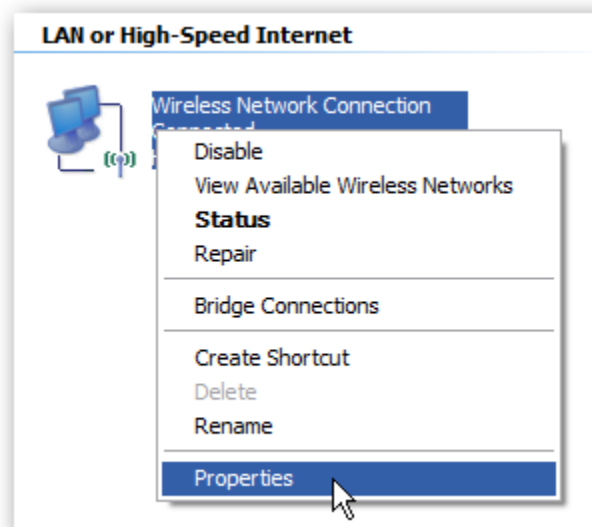
## Windows XP

*In this example we're using XP SP3 Media Center Edition and changing the IP address of the Wireless adapter.*

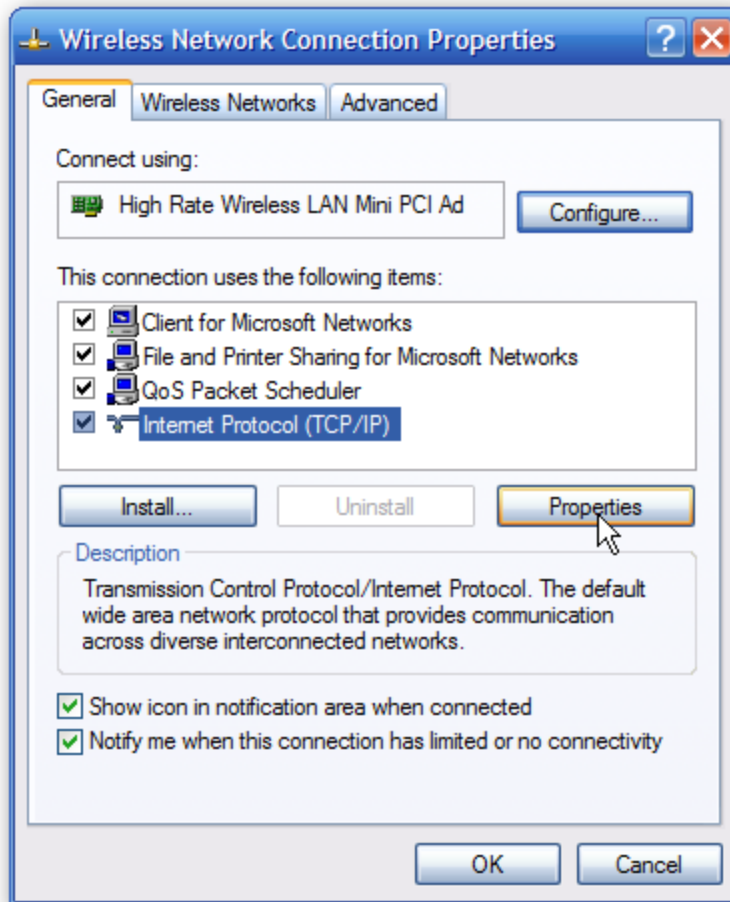
To set a Static IP in XP right-click on My Network Places and select Properties.



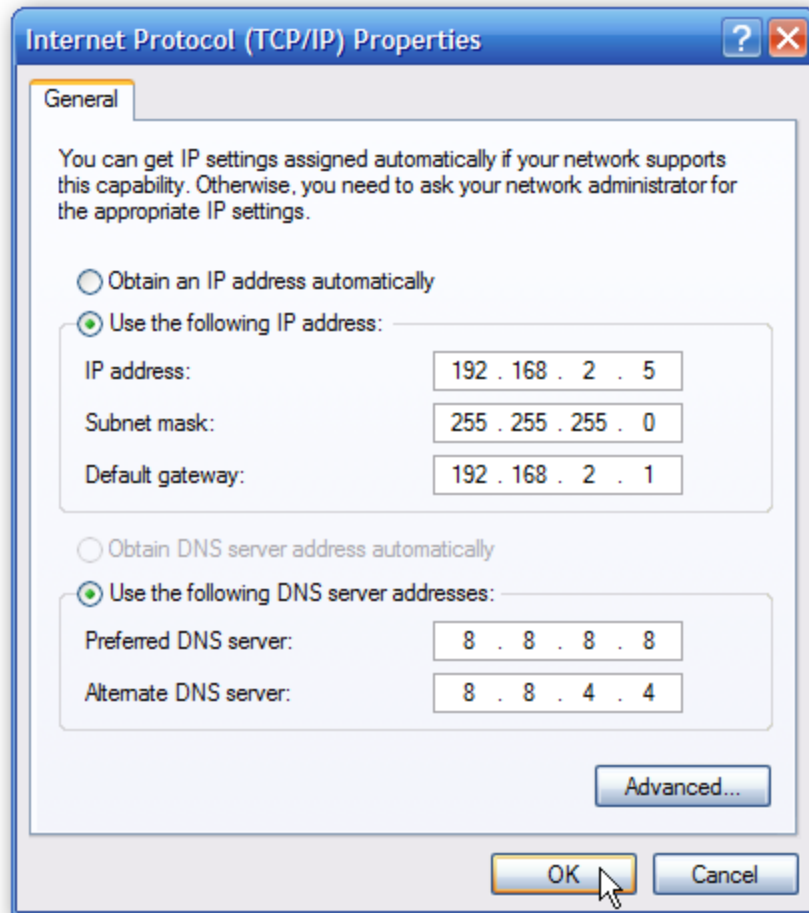
Right-click on the adapter you want to set the IP for and select Properties.



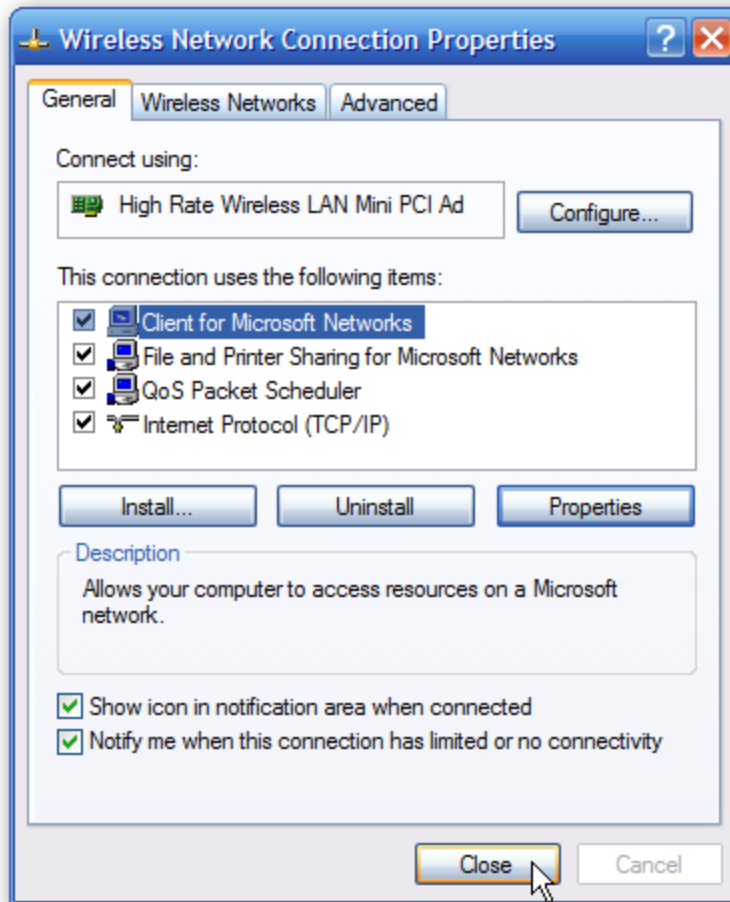
Highlight *Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)* and click the Properties button.



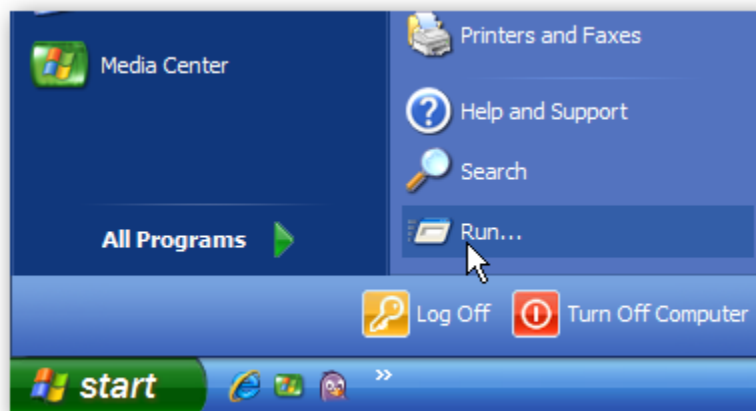
Now change the IP, Subnet mask, Default Gateway, and DNS Server Addresses. When you're finished click OK.



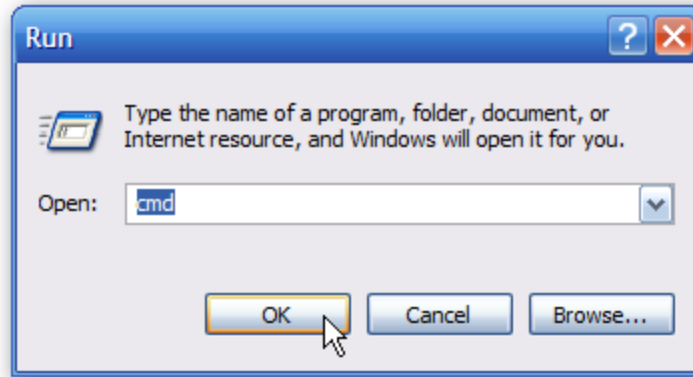
You will need to close out of the Network Connection Properties screen before the changes go into effect.



Again you can verify the settings by doing an *ipconfig* in the command prompt. In case you're not sure how to do this, click on Start then Run.



In the Run box type in *cmd* and click OK.



Then at the prompt type in *ipconfig* and hit Enter. This will show the IP address for the network adapter you changed.

```
C:\Documents and Settings\XP Geek>ipconfig
Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Wireless Network Connection:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix  . : 
    IP Address. . . . .               : 192.168.2.5
    Subnet Mask . . . . .             : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . .         : 192.168.2.1

C:\Documents and Settings\XP Geek>
```

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