## 1.9 Nameservice What are 'PTR' records?

## **DNS PTR Records**

A DNS pointer record (PTR for short) provides the domain name associated with an IP address.

A DNS PTR record is **exactly the opposite** of the <u>'A' record</u>, which provides the IP address associated with a domain name.

DNS PTR records are used in <u>reverse DNS lookups</u>. When a user attempts to reach a domain name in their browser, a DNS lookup occurs, matching the domain name to the IP address.

A reverse DNS lookup is the opposite of this - it searches for a domain name with the given IP address.

This also means that **PTR records can not be defined using the name servers of the domain, but have to be requested at the provider of the IP address**, in case the provider supports this.

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