DNS Record Types

The fictional business Alder uses **alder.example.** for its website, email and phones. Match each job to the name and type you would query in your own zone. All IP addresses shown are reserved for documentation.

Type	Name to Query	Example Answer and Meaning
A	`alder.example.`	**`192.0.2.20`** IPv4 address for the website.
AAAA	`alder.example.`	**`2001:db8::20`** IPv6 address for the same website.
CNAME	`www.alder.example.`	**`alder.example.`** The www name is an alias. Follow its target for addresses.
MX	`alder.example.`	**`10 mail.alder.example.`** Lower numbers have priority for incoming mail. This target has its own A record, 192.0.2.25.
TXT	`alder.example.`	**`"vendor-verification=illustration"`** A verification service reads its own token. SPF uses a separate TXT record.
NS	`alder.example.`	**`ns1.alder.example. and ns2.alder.example.`** These nameservers publish the zone's authoritative answers.
SOA	`alder.example.`	**`Primary server ns1.alder.example.`** One SOA at the zone apex carries the serial and timing fields.
SRV	`_sip._tcp.alder.example.`	**`10 0 5060 voice.alder.example.`** A SIP client reads priority, weight, port and target, in that order.
CAA	`alder.example.`	**`0 issue "letsencrypt.org"`** This policy authorises Let's Encrypt to issue certificates.
PTR	`25.2.0.192.in-addr.arpa.`	**`mail.alder.example.`** Reverse lookup for 192.0.2.25. The IP provider or its delegate controls this zone.

Which Records Can Share a Name?

The apex holds A, AAAA, MX and TXT together. A name with a standard CNAME cannot also hold an address, MX or TXT record. An MX target needs its own A or AAAA. Several TXT records can share a name, but only one may be an SPF policy.

How Do I Read the TTL?

Time to live (TTL) gives a cache lifetime in seconds. Here, 3600 means one hour. A resolver may keep an earlier answer until its cached lifetime runs down. In the zone file, `@` means `alder.example.` and a final dot marks a complete name.

For the protocol rules, see DNS zone-file syntax, alias and target rules and SPF publication.