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- **IP Address:**
Numeric identifier assigned to each device on a network so it can send and receive data; works like a digital address.
- **MAC Address:**
Permanent hardware identifier on a network interface card used for communication inside local networks.
- **Subnet:**
Logical division of a network to control addressing, reduce congestion, and improve traffic organization.
- **Gateway:**
Device that acts as an exit point from a local network, allowing communication with external networks or the internet.
- **DNS:**
Service that translates human-readable domain names into IP addresses so browsers know where to connect.
- **DHCP:**
Automatic system that assigns IP addresses and network settings to devices so users don't configure them manually.
- **Router:**
Device that directs data between different networks by choosing the best path for packets to travel.
- **Switch:**
Network device that connects multiple devices in a LAN and forwards data only to the intended destination device.
- **Hub:**
Basic device that broadcasts any incoming data to all connected ports, causing unnecessary traffic.
- **LAN:**
Network covering a limited physical area such as a room, building, or campus, typically privately owned.
- **WAN:**
Wide-ranging network connecting multiple LANs across cities, regions, or countries, often using public infrastructure.
- **VLAN:**
Logical group of network devices separated within a switch, improving segmentation and security without physical isolation.
- **Packet:**
Structured block of data sent over networks containing both user data and routing information.
- **Frame:**
Data unit at the link layer containing MAC addresses and error checking for delivery within a LAN.

- **Protocol:**

Formal rules that structure how data is formatted, transmitted, received, and acknowledged in a network.

- **TCP:**

Reliable transport protocol that establishes a connection, checks for errors, and guarantees ordered data delivery.

- **UDP:**

Lightweight transport protocol that sends data without connection setup or delivery guarantees, used for speed-dependent tasks.

- **HTTP:**

Web communication protocol used by browsers and servers to request and deliver web pages and resources.

- **HTTPS:**

Secure version of HTTP that encrypts traffic with TLS to protect user data and prevent eavesdropping.

- **NAT:**

Method that translates private internal IP addresses to a public address so multiple devices share one internet connection.

- **Firewall:**

Traffic filter that enforces security rules to allow or block data between networks based on policies.

- **Port Number:**

Numerical value that directs incoming network data to the correct application or service on a device.

- **Bandwidth:**

Maximum data capacity of a network connection measured per second, determining how much information can pass through.

- **Latency:**

Time delay between sending a request and receiving a response, impacting how fast a network feels.

- **MTU:**

The largest packet size a network link supports without splitting data into smaller fragments for transmission