Riverpod Architecture Interaction Rules (Flutter)

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Think of it like this:

```
UI (Widget)

Controller / Notifier (Provider)

Repository

Data Source (API / DB)
```

Rule 1: **UI cannot directly talk to Data or Domain layers**

🔽 UI 🔁 Provider 🔁 Repository

X UI Repository (skip provider)

X UI API or DB directly

Reason:

Providers act as a "bridge" or **mediator** between UI and logic layers — keeping UI reactive, testable, and clean.

Rule 2: Each layer has only one-way access

From	Can Access	Cannot Access
UI	Provider (Notifier / StateProvider)	Repository or DataSource directly
Provider (Controller)	Repository, Domain Logic	UI Widgets or BuildContext
Repository	Data Sources (API, DB, Local Storage)	UI or Provider
Data Source	Network/Local System	Anything above it

Correct Example

```
// presentation/controller/user_controller.dart
class UserController extends Notifier<UserState> {
  final UserRepository repo;
  UserController(this.repo);
  Future<void> fetchUser() async {
```

```
final user = await repo.getUser(); // gets from data layer
    state = UserState.loaded(user);
}

// ui/screen/user_screen.dart
final userProvider = NotifierProvider<UserController, UserState>(
    () => UserController(ref.read(userRepoProvider)),
);

Widget build(context, ref) {
    final state = ref.watch(userProvider);
    return state.when(
    data: (user) => Text(user.name),
    loading: () => CircularProgressIndicator(),
    error: (e, _) => Text('$e'),
);
}
```

Rule 3: Domain layer stands between Controller and Repository (optional but recommended)

If your app has business logic, insert a Domain layer (use cases).

```
	extsf{UI} 	o 	extsf{Controller} 	o 	extsf{UseCase} 	extsf{(Domain)} 	o 	extsf{Repository} 	o 	extsf{DataSource}
```

Each layer focuses on one concern:

- UseCase: Defines business actions (e.g., login, fetchUserProfile)
- **Repository:** Knows how to get data (network, local, etc.)
- Controller: Controls UI state and calls usecases

Example Flow

```
User taps button

↓
UserScreen → reads → UserController

↓
UserController → calls → GetUserUseCase

↓
GetUserUseCase → calls → UserRepository

↓
UserRepository → calls → ApiService

↓
ApiService → returns data → Repository → Controller → UI updates
```

Rule 4: Providers connect the layers

Each layer should be **injected** via a Riverpod provider.

```
final apiProvider = Provider((ref) => ApiService());
final userRepoProvider = Provider((ref) => UserRepository(ref.read(apiProvider)));
final getUserUseCaseProvider = Provider((ref) => GetUserUseCase(ref.read(userRepoProvider)));
```

```
final userControllerProvider =
   NotifierProvider<UserController, UserState>(() => UserController(ref.read(getUserUseCaseProvider)));
```

This keeps **clear dependency flow** — no circular access.

Rule 5: Never reverse access

- Repository must not call Controller.
- Data Source must not know about Repository.
- UseCase must not depend on UI or Providers.
- Providers must not depend on Widgets or BuildContext.

Each layer is **downward-only** in communication.

🔁 Rule 6: Data flows downward, state flows upward

- Data (API results) flows **down** \rightarrow **up** (repository \rightarrow controller \rightarrow UI).
- User interactions flow **up** \rightarrow **down** (UI \rightarrow controller \rightarrow repository).

→ Rule 7: Provider is your single bridge

Even when multiple layers exist:

- UI communicates only with providers
- Providers call repositories or usecases
- Providers handle state updates

🧩 Visual Flow Summary