

Fundamentals of Networks

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- What is a Network?
 - A collection of devices (aka nodes) interconnected by different types of links, which allow devices to communicate at a distance in order to support diverse applications
 - Devices:
 - * End systems or terminal nodes: computer (desktop, laptop), cell-phone, tablet, car, sensor, and virtually almost anything
 - * Intermediate nodes: modem, repeater, hub, switch, router, base station, etc.
 - Links:
 - * Wired links: fiber, copper, etc.
 - * Wireless links: electromagnetic waves (radio, microwave, terahertz band, infra-red, etc.), acoustic waves (ultra-sounds), etc.
 - Applications:
 - * E-mail, instant messaging, web browsing, multimedia streaming, etc.