Advantage and Disadvantage of Topologies:

1. Bus Topology: Number of cables: N+1 & Multipoint connection

Advantage:

- (a) Easy installation
- (b) Less cabling
- (c) Multipoint connection

Disadvantage:

- (a) Difficult fault identification and isolation
- (b) Weaker signal at farther distance
- (c) Difficult reconnection
- (d) Degradation in quality

2. Ring Topology: Number of cables: N (If unidirectional) & point-to-point connection

Advantage:

- (a) Easy to install and reconfigure
- (b) Add or delete is easier
- (c) Fault isolation is simplified

• Disadvantage:

- (a) Unidirectional traffic
- (b) Point-to-point connection
- (c) A break in the ring can disable the network

3. Star Topology: Number of cables: N & point-to-point connection

Advantage:

- (a) Less Expensive than mesh
- (b) Easy to install and reconfigure
- (c) Easy fault identification and isolation

Disadvantage:

- (a) Point-to-point connection to a central controller (hub)
- (b) Does not allow direct traffic between devices
- (c) Dependency on hub

4. Mesh Topology: Number of cables: (N*(N-1))/2 & point-to-point connection

Advantage:

- (a) Each connection can carry out its own data load
- (b) Robust: One connection failure does not affect others
- (c) Better privacy or security
- (d) Easy fault identification and isolation

Disadvantage:

- (a) Huge amount of cabling is needed
- (b) Hard to install and reconfigure
- (c) Costly and required more space