

The OSI Model

What is it?

The *Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Reference Model*

- A **conceptual** framework showing us how data moves throughout a network.
- Developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in 1977.

It's Purpose

- Gives us a guide to understanding how networks operate.

It's only a **reference model**, so don't get wrapped up in the details.

- Wasn't implemented in the **real world**, TCP/IP is.

The OSI Model Stack

The OSI Model breaks down the complex task of computer-to-computer network communications into seven layers.

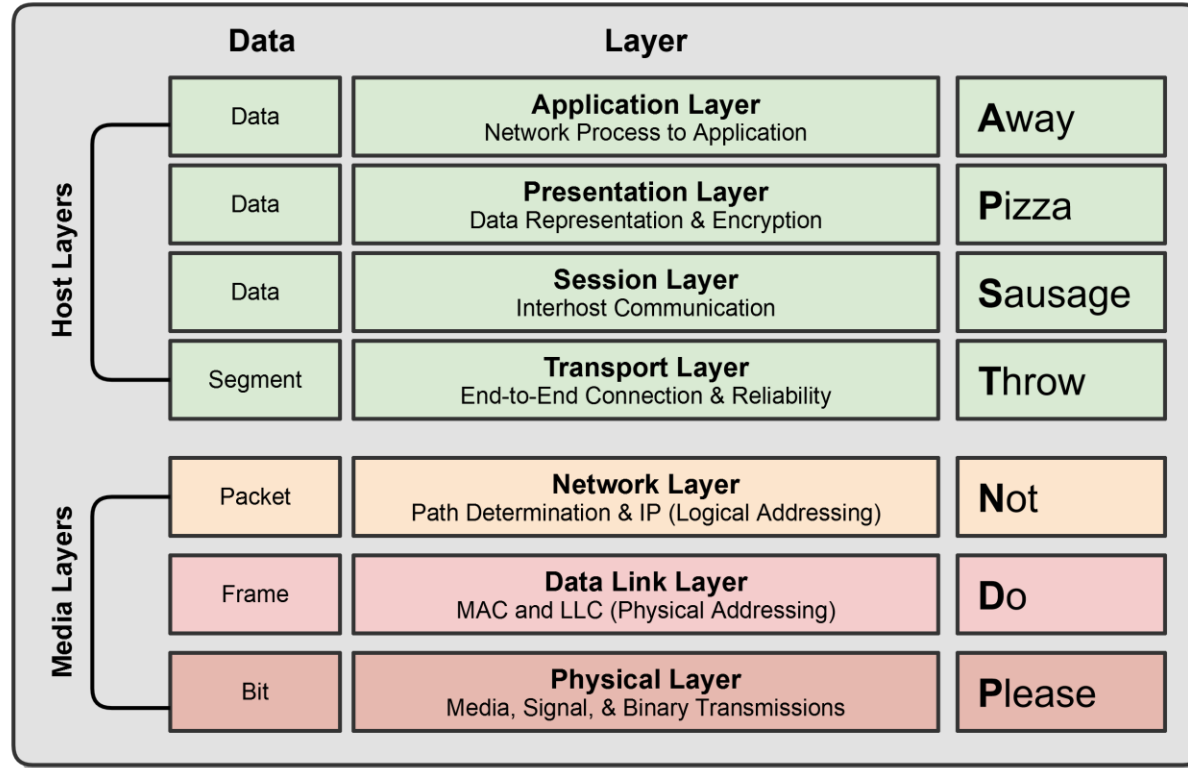
Upper Layers (Host Layers)

- Handled by the host computer and performs application-specific functions, such as data formatting, encryption, and connection management.

Lower Layers (Media Layers)

- Provide network-specific functions, such as routing, addressing, and flow control.

The OSI Model Visualized



OSI Communication

