Different ways to describe internet:

Internet is an infrastructure to support and facilitate communication between applications running on hosts.

App requirements from 3 perspectives:

1. Users/app programmers
2. Network operators (AT&T)
3. Network designers (Cisco)

These lead to basic considerations for Internet technology:

1. Scale
2. Reachability
3. Performance
4. Manageability
5. Reliability
6. Cost

3 perspectives on the internet

1. Abstract – point to point, multiple access, circuit switched network: signaling is used to establish a dedicated circuit between hosts. The circuit is taken down at the end of communication, Packet switched network: organized info into discrete groups (packets, datagram, segments), switch: something facilitates communication.

Packet switched networks are also called “State + forward networks” because devices that facilitate communication full receive packets before sending them along.

All infra in packet switched networks is shared.

1. Practical
2. Architectural