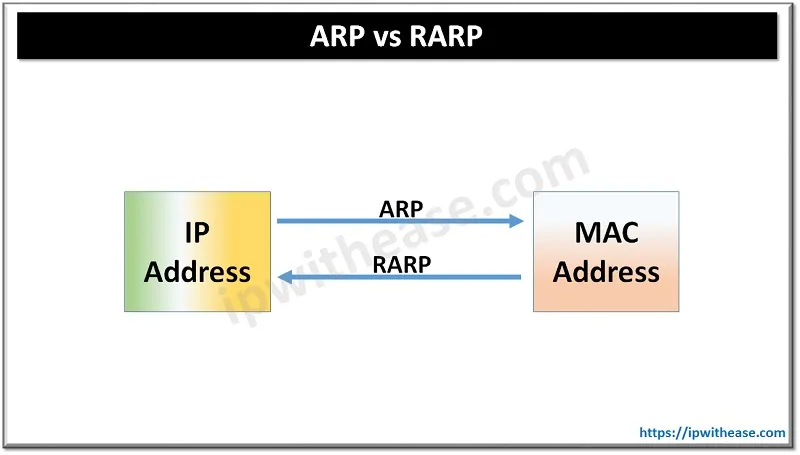
reference <https://ipwithease.com/arp-vs-rarp/>

**ARP VS RARP – Difference between ARP and RARP**

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Before discussing ARP vs RARP, let us understand the two terms first.

**ARP** stands for Address resolution protocol and **RARP** is an abbreviation for Reverse Address Resolution Protocol. Both are **LAN** protocols and are quite similar in some ways.

Advertisements

Both use Broadcast in Request and unicast in response. Both [**ARP**](https://ipwithease.com/arp-address-resolution-protocol/) and [**RARP**](https://ipwithease.com/rarp-reverse-address-resolution-protocol/) have the objective to complete the **IP address** to **MAC address** mapping.

Additionally, both utilize the same packet format including usage of broadcast addresses.

**Difference between ARP and RARP:**

| **PARAMETER** | **ARP** | **RARP** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Abbreviation for | Address resolution protocol | Reverse Address Resolution Protocol |
| Broadcast MAC/IP | Nodes use ARP broadcast in LAN by using broadcast MAC address | RARP uses Broadcast IP address |
| Mapping | Maps IP address of node to its MAC Address | Maps 48 bit MAC address to IP address |
| Usage | Used by host or Router to find physical address of another host/Router in LAN. | Used by thin clients with limited facilities |
| Table maintained by | Local Host maintains ARP table | RARP Server maintains RARP table |
| Reply information | ARP reply is used to update ARP table | RARP reply is used to configure IP address in local host |