Layer 3 – The Network Layer

- The Network layer is responsible for routing packets to their destination and for Quality of Service.
- IP (Internet Protocol) is the best known Layer 3 protocol. IPv4 is the focus of this section.
- It is a connectionless protocol with no acknowledgements at Layer 3.
- Other Layer 3 protocols include ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol) and IPSec.



IP Addressing

- IP addressing is a logical addressing scheme which is implemented at Layer 3.
- The network designer uses IP addressing to partition the overall network into smaller 'subnets'.
- This improves performance and security and makes troubleshooting easier.
- Layer 2 MAC addresses use one big flat addressing scheme. There is no logical separation between networks at Layer 2, it's done at Layer 3.





Receiver

Sender

Layer	Name	Includes	Devices
7			
6			
5			
4			
3			
2			
1			

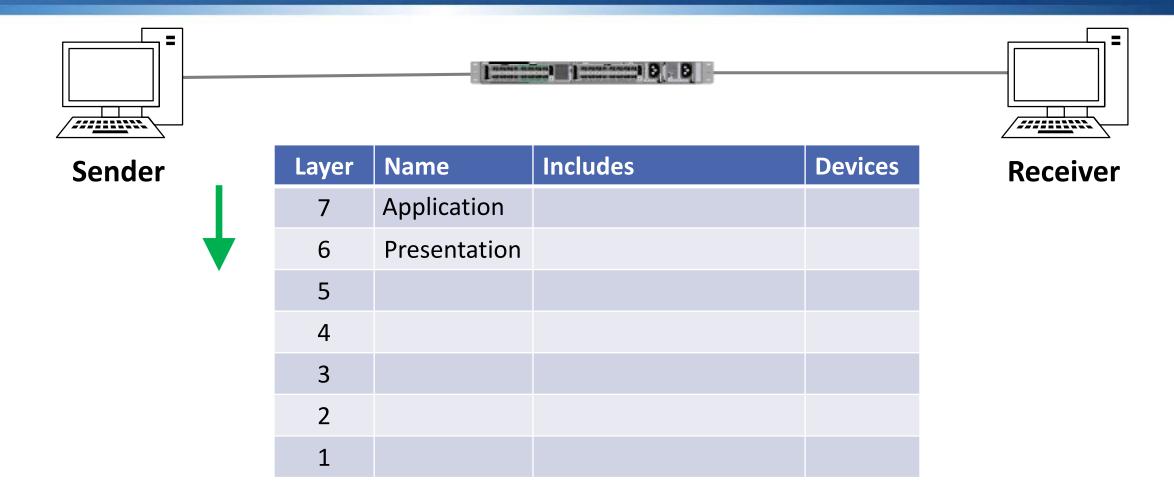




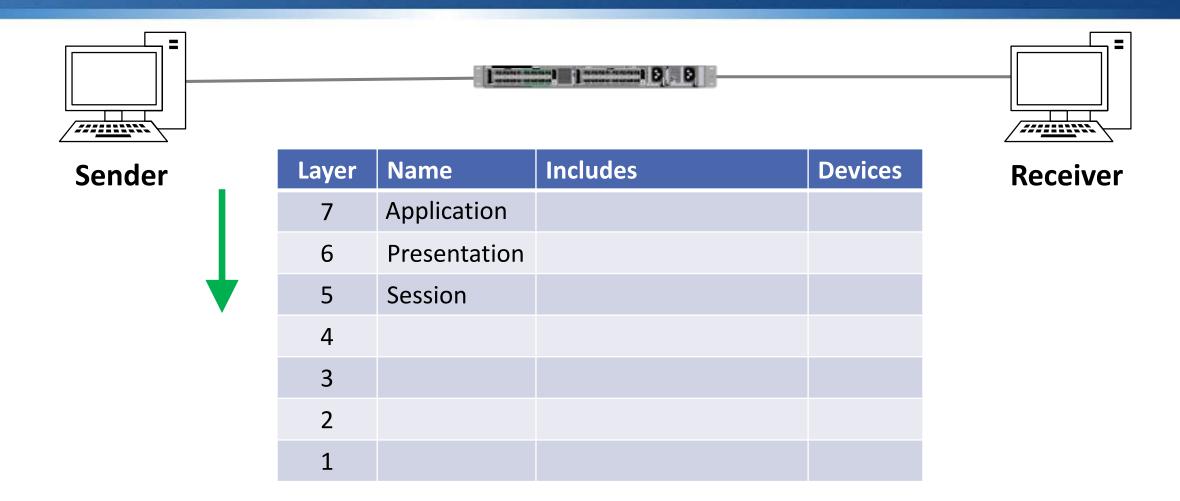


Layer	Name	Includes	Devices
7	Application		
6			
5			
4			
3			
2			
1			

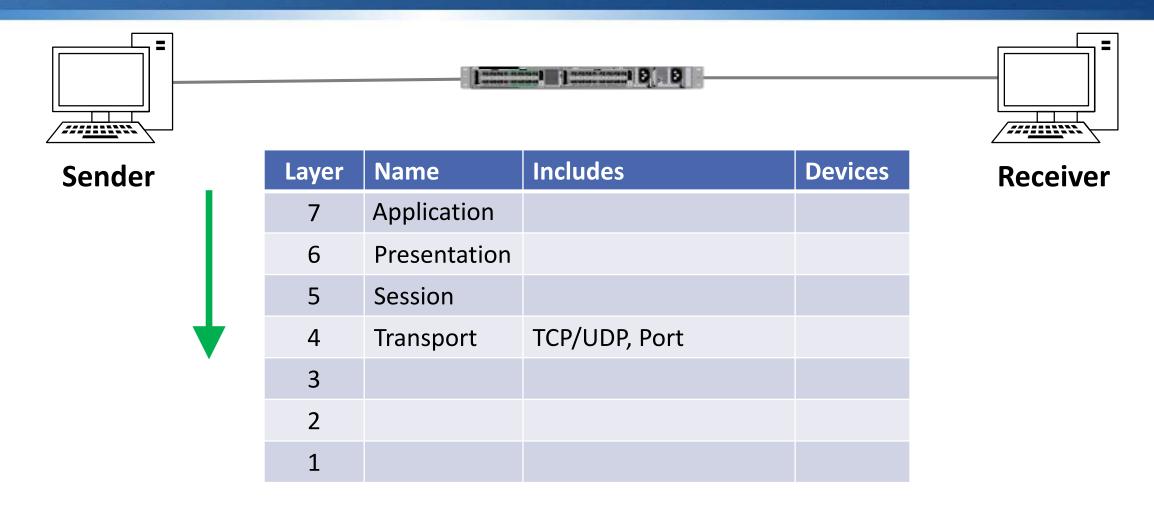




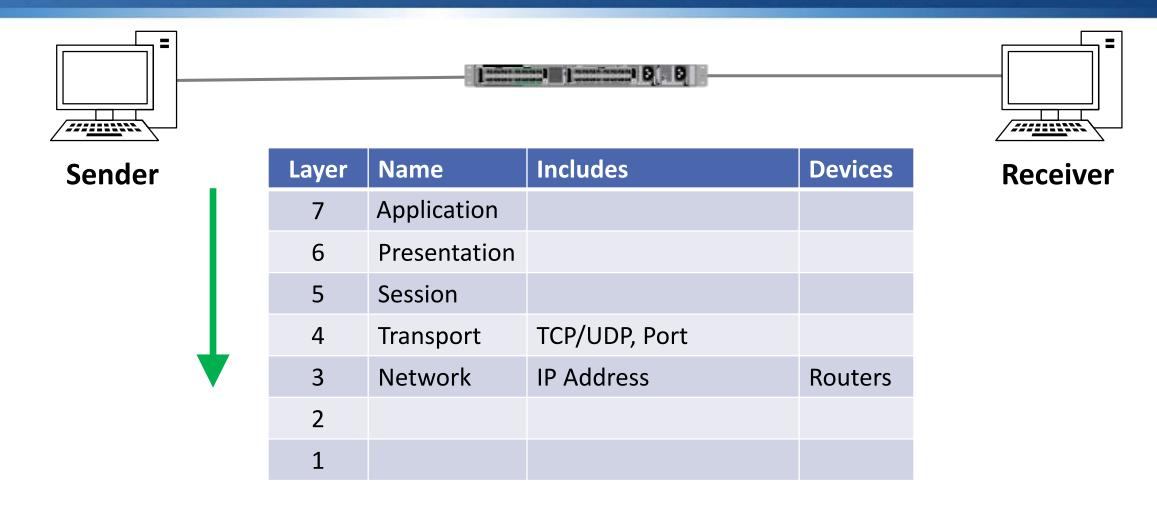




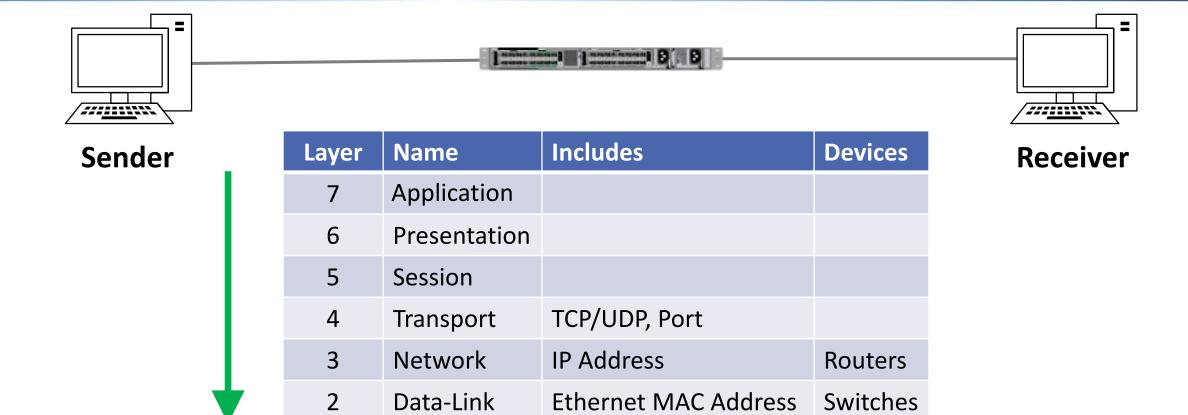














L3

1

L2



Receiver

Sender

Layer	Name	Includes	Devices
7	Application		
6	Presentation		
5	Session		
4	Transport	TCP/UDP, Port	
3	Network	IP Address	Routers
2	Data-Link	Ethernet MAC Address	Switches
1	Physical		Hubs



The IP Header

