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| template | Hub | Switch | Router |
| Layer | Physical layer | Data link layer | Network layer |
| Function | To connect a network of personal computers together, they can be joined through a central hub | Allow connections to multiple devices, manage ports, manage VLAN security settings | Direct data in a network |
| Data Transmission form | electrical signal or bits | frame & packet | packet |
| Port | 4/12 ports | multi-port, usually between 4 and 48 | 2/4/5/8 ports |
| Transmission type | Frame flooding, unicast, multicast or broadcast | First broadcast, then unicast and/or multicast depends on the need | At Initial Level Broadcast then Uni-cast and multicast |
| Device type | Non-intelligent device | Intelligent device | Intelligent device |
| Used in(LAN, MAN, WAN) | LAN | LAN | LAN, MAN, WAN |
| Transmission mode | Half duplex | Half/Full duplex | Full duplex |
| Speed | 10Mbps | 10/100Mbps, 1Gbps | 1-100Mbps(wireless); 100Mbps-1Gbps(wired) |
| Address used for data transmission | MAC address | MAC address | IP address |