



Layer	What Happens Here
Application – Layer 7 (HTTP)	This is where everything starts. The user opens an app or browser and creates the message that’s about to be
Presentation – Layer 6 (SSL)	Before the data goes anywhere, it’s cleaned up and secured—kind of like making sure the message is in the right
Session – Layer 5 (NetBIOS)	This is the “rest stop” where the two devices connect and agree to keep talking until the exchange is done.
Transport – Layer 4 (TCP/UDP)	The “barrier” that chops data into smaller pieces and makes sure everything arrives in the right order
Network – Layer 3 (IP)	Works like a GPS, choosing the best route for packets to reach the other computer using IP addresses.
Data Link – Layer 2 (Ethernet)	The “traffic light” that organizes data inside the local network and adds MAC addresses to identify each device.
Physical – Layer 1 (Fiber/Radio)	This is the road itself—the actual cables or wireless signals carrying the bits from one place to another.

Layer #	OSI Layer	Receiver’s Job	Sender’s Job
7	Application	Lets the user or app know that everything was	Shows a confirmation that the message went
6	Presentation	Decodes or decrypts the acknowledgment	Re-formats it into something readable.
5	Session	Keeps the line of communication open just in case	Chooses to close or continue the session.
4	Transport	Checks through TCP that every piece of data	Marks the transfer as complete once the ACK is
3	Network	Sends the acknowledgment back along the	Reads the packet and confirms it made it home.
2	Data Link	Makes sure each frame of the return signal is	Verifies that the returning frame was received
1	Physical	Pushes the acknowledgment bits through wires	Converts the signals back into digital data.