



## What is a Port in Networking?

A **port** is like a **door** inside a computer or device that allows it to **communicate with other devices** on a network (like the internet).

You can think of it like this:

- The **IP address** is like a **house address** .
- A **port** is like a **specific room or door number** inside the house .
- Different **services** (like websites, email, or file sharing) use **different ports** to talk to each other.



## Why Do We Use Ports?

To let a computer **run multiple services** at the same time — and know where to send incoming data.

For example:

- Port **80** is used for **websites (HTTP)**.
- Port **443** is for **secure websites (HTTPS)**.
- Port **25** is for **sending email (SMTP)**.
- Port **22** is for **remote login (SSH)**.

So if you open a website, your browser talks to **port 80 or 443** on the server.

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## Port Numbers: Quick Overview

Range	Purpose
0 – 1023	<b>Well-known ports</b> (HTTP, SSH, FTP, etc.)
1024 – 49151	<b>Registered ports</b> (custom apps)
49152 – 65535	<b>Dynamic/Private ports</b> (temporary use)



## Example in Real Life

If you visit:

<http://example.com>

Your browser:

- Uses the internet to go to example.com (IP address)
- Connects to **port 80** by default
- Gets the website content



## How You See Ports in Use

You can use tools like:

netstat -tuln

Or scan a computer with:

nmap 192.168.1.1

## Summary

Term	Meaning
Port	A number that identifies a network service
IP Address	Identifies the device itself
Port + IP	Tells data <b>where to go</b>