

Prac -2 Setup a wired LAN using Layer 2 Switch. It includes preparation of cable, testing of cable using line tester, configuration machine using IP addresses, testing using PING utility and demonstrating the PING packets captured traces using Wireshark Packet Analyzer Tool.

### Aim

- To set up a wired LAN using a Layer 2 switch.
  - To assign IP addresses to PCs and test connectivity using **PING**.
  - To capture and analyze network packets using **Packet Tracer Simulation Mode** (similar to Wireshark).
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### Materials Required

- Cisco Packet Tracer software
  - PCs (3–4)
  - Layer 2 Switch
  - Copper Straight-Through Cables
  - Line Tester (for real hardware setups)
  - IP Configuration knowledge
  - ICMP utility (PING)
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### Learning Objectives

After completing this experiment, you will be able to:

1. Understand and configure a **Layer 2 switch LAN**.
  2. Assign **IP addresses** to network devices.
  3. Test connectivity using the **PING** command.
  4. Capture and analyze network packets using **Packet Tracer Simulation Mode**.
  5. Understand **how switches forward frames based on MAC addresses**.
  6. Distinguish between wired LAN, IP addressing, and packet flow in a network.
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### Theory

- **Layer 2 Switch:** Operates at the **Data Link Layer** of the OSI model and forwards frames based on **MAC addresses**.
- **LAN (Local Area Network):** A network that connects devices within a limited area such as a building.
- **IP Address:** Unique network layer address assigned to each device to enable communication.

- **PING Command:** Utility to test network connectivity using **ICMP protocol**.
- **Packet Capture (Simulation Mode in Packet Tracer):** Allows visualization of data packets, their source and destination MAC addresses, IP addresses, and protocol type.
- **Cabling:**
  - **PC → Switch:** Use straight-through cable.
  - **PC → PC (if direct):** Use crossover cable.
- **Line Tester (for real networks):** Ensures cable continuity and correct wiring.

### **Steps in Theory Context:**

1. Connect PCs to the switch with proper cables.
  2. Assign IP addresses and subnet masks to PCs.
  3. Test connectivity using PING.
  4. Capture and analyze packet transmission in simulation mode to observe MAC and IP-based forwarding.
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### **Conclusion**

- The **Layer 2 switch successfully connects multiple devices** in a LAN.
- **IP configuration and PING tests** verify network connectivity.
- **Simulation mode** in Packet Tracer allows observation of packet flow, showing **ICMP requests and replies**.
- Layer 2 switches forward data frames based on **MAC addresses**, not IP addresses.
- This experiment helps understand **wired LAN design, troubleshooting, and network monitoring**.



