In the world of technology, a **protocol** is a set of rules that governs how data is transmitted and received between devices. [It defines the format, sequence, and error control of data sent over a communication channel1](https://www.thetechedvocate.org/what-is-a-protocol/)[2](https://www.cloudflare.com/learning/network-layer/what-is-a-protocol/).

Here are **five free resources** where you can learn more about protocols:

1. **Computer Networking: Principles, Protocols, and Practice**: This open textbook provides a detailed description of key principles guiding Internet operation, covering topics like application layer protocols, transport layer, network layer, and more. [You can find it](https://www.thetechedvocate.org/what-is-a-protocol/) [here3](https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/352).
2. **Guide to Learning Internet Protocols**: Discoverology offers insightful articles, educational videos, and expert insights on internet protocols. The learning guide is split into four levels: introduction, basics, advanced, and expert. [Explore it at your own pace](https://www.thetechedvocate.org/what-is-a-protocol/) [here4](https://discoverology.com/learn/internet-protocols/).
3. **How the Ethernet Protocol Works – A Complete Guide**: This tutorial delves into Ethernet history, the structure of protocols, and lessons learned. [Learn about Ethernet and its protocols](https://www.thetechedvocate.org/what-is-a-protocol/) [here5](https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/the-complete-guide-to-the-ethernet-protocol/).

Feel free to explore these resources to enhance your understanding of protocols! 🌐🔍