[**Network monitoring** is the practice of consistently overseeing a computer network to detect failures or deficiencies, ensuring continued network performance1](https://www.techtarget.com/searchnetworking/definition/network-monitoring)[2](https://www.techopedia.com/definition/24149/network-monitoring)[3](https://www.vmware.com/topics/glossary/content/network-monitoring.html).

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

1. **Nagios Core**: Nagios is a popular IT management and monitoring software. [Nagios Core, the open-source version, runs natively on Linux and is used worldwide for monitoring network devices, services, and applications](https://www.techtarget.com/searchnetworking/definition/network-monitoring)[4](https://www.networkstraining.com/best-open-source-free-network-monitoring-tools/).
2. **Cacti**: Cacti is a network graphing program that provides fast and efficient monitoring. [It allows you to create graphs and track performance metrics for various network components](https://www.techtarget.com/searchnetworking/definition/network-monitoring)[4](https://www.networkstraining.com/best-open-source-free-network-monitoring-tools/).
3. **Azure Monitor**: Microsoft’s Azure Monitor provides tools for monitoring networks in Azure. [You can learn about monitoring load balancers, network traffic, and more using Azure Monitor](https://www.techtarget.com/searchnetworking/definition/network-monitoring)[5](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/design-implement-network-monitoring/).
4. **PRTG Videos**: Paessler offers video tutorials to help you start monitoring your network with PRTG. [Topics include installation, notifications, and using remote probes in distributed networks](https://www.techtarget.com/searchnetworking/definition/network-monitoring)[6](https://www.paessler.com/support/videos-and-webinars/videos).
5. **Wireshark Tutorial**: Codecademy provides a tutorial on using Wireshark for network analysis. [Learn how to interact with Wireshark, create custom filters, and follow network streams](https://www.techtarget.com/searchnetworking/definition/network-monitoring)[7](https://www.codecademy.com/article/tutorial-network-monitoring).

Remember that network monitoring is crucial for maintaining network health and preventing downtime. These resources will help you gain visibility into your network infrastructure and troubleshoot issues effectively.