

What is Network? Explain different types of networks.

A computer network is a system that connects numerous independent computers in order to share information (data) and resources. The integration of computers and other different devices allows users to communicate more easily.

A computer network is a collection of two or more computer systems that are linked together. A network connection can be established using either cable or wireless media. Hardware and software are used to connect computers and tools in any network.

There are three major types of networks:-

- LAN (Local area network)
- MAN (Metropolitan area network)
- WAN (Wide Area Network)

Lan (Local area network): -

LAN is a computer network which covers small geographical area such as building, residence, school etc. It provides high speed over short distances, as the distance increases between the nodes and system its speed decreases. The LAN is owned by private people.

MAN (Metropolitan area network): -

MAN is computer network which covers large geographical area such as several building, societies, small cities etc. The geographical area of the MAN is larger than LAN, but smaller than WAN. It's typically

used by organizations requiring high-speed connections between their various locations.

WAN (Wide area network): -

WAN is a computer network which covers large geographical area such as cities, countries, continents etc. It is collections of multiple LANs, MANs and WANs. The network speed is less than LAN.