network routers operate âĢĶ âĢľpacketizesâĢĽ the data and provides routing information. The common protocol for this layer is the Internet Protocol (IP).ĊLayer four is the Transport layer. Keep in mind that this layer has a different meaning in the OSI Reference Model compared to how we use the term âĢľtransportâĢĽ for moving audio around. The Transport layer provides protocols to determine the delivery method. The most popular layer four protocol is Transmission Control Protocol (TCP). Many discuss TCP/IP as one protocol, but actually they are two separate protocols on two different layers. TCP/IP is usually used as the data transport for file transfers or audio control applications.ĊComparison of four digital audio technologies using the OSI model as a framework.ĊTCP provides a scheme where it sends an acknowledge message for each packet received by a sending device. If it senses that it is missing a packet of information, it will send a message back to the sender to resend. This feature is great for applications that are not time-dependent, but is not useful in real-time applications like audio and video.ĊStreaming media technologies most common on the Web use another method called User Datagram Protocol (UDP), which simply streams the packets. The sender never knows if it actually arrives or not. Professional audio applications have not used UDP because they are typically Physical layer