

Week 7-Subnetting

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In the original IPv4 address, there are two levels of hierarchy: a network and a host. These two levels of addressing allow for basic network groupings that facilitate in routing packets to a destination network. A router forwards packets based on the network

Subdividing a network adds a level to the network hierarchy, creating, in essence, levels: a network, a subnetwork, and a host. Introducing an additional level to the hierarchy creates additional sub-groups within an IP network that facilitates faster packet delivery and added filtration, by helping to minimize 'local' traffic.

A problem with a large broadcast domain is that these hosts can generate excessive broadcasts and negatively affect the network

Excessive broadcast traffic results in:

- Slow network operations due to the significant amount of traffic it can cause
- Slow device operations because a device must accept and process each broadcast packet

The solution is to reduce the size of the network to create smaller broadcast domains in a process called *subnetting*. These smaller network spaces are called *subnets*.

Subnetting reduces overall network traffic and improves network performance. It also enables an administrator to implement security policies such as which subnets are allowed or not allowed to communicate together.

n-number of host bits borrowed.

Number of subnets possible = 2^n

Where n is the number of bits borrowed

Number of hosts possible = $2^N - 2$

Where N = number of host bits = 32 - number of network bits.

Magic number - place value of the last 1 in the network bit

Subnets start from 0 and get added by the magic number for the next subnet till it reaches 255.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with a page titled "Address Range for 192.168.1.0/25 Subnet". The page contains a table with the following information:

Address Type	Binary Representation (Last Octet)	Decimal Address
Network Address	000 0000	192.168.1.0
First Host Address	000 0001	192.168.1.1
Last Host Address	111 1110	192.168.1.126
Broadcast Address	111 1111	192.168.1.127

The last two bits cannot be borrowed from the last octet because there would be no host addresses available. Therefore, the longest prefix length possible when subnetting is /30 or 255.255.255.252. There is an inverse relationship between the number of subnets and the number of hosts. The more bits borrowed to create subnets, the fewer host bits available. If more host addresses are needed, more host bits are required, resulting in fewer subnets.

Subnetting a subnet, or using Variable Length Subnet Mask (VLSM), was designed to avoid wasting addresses.

Introduction to Network > https://static-course-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/T1N6/en/index.html#8.1.5.2

Subnets of Varying Sizes

One subnet was further divided to create 8 smaller subnets of 4 hosts each.

In all of the previous examples of subnetting, notice that the same subnet mask was applied for all the subnets. This means that each subnet has the same number of available host addresses.

As illustrated in Figure 1, traditional subnetting creates subnets of equal size. Each subnet in a traditional scheme uses the same subnet mask. As shown in Figure 2, VLSM allows a network space to be divided into unequal parts. With VLSM, the subnet mask will vary depending on how many bits have been borrowed for a particular subnet, thus the "variable" part of the VLSM.

- VLSM subnetting is similar to traditional subnetting in that bits are borrowed to create subnets. The formulas to calculate the number of hosts per subnet and the number of subnets created still apply.

The difference is that subnetting is not a single pass activity. With VLSM, the network is first subnetted, and then the subnets are subnetted again. This process can be repeated multiple times to create subnets of various sizes.

Note: When using VLSM, always begin by satisfying the host requirements of the largest subnet. Continue subnetting until the host requirements of the smallest subnet are satisfied.

Introduction to Network > https://static-course-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/T1N6/en/index.html#8.1.5.3

VLSM Subnetting Scheme

Subnetting IP Networks > Subnetting an IPv4 Network > Benefits of Variable Length Subnet Masking > Basic VLSM

	Network portion	Host portion	Dotted Decimal
0	11000000.10101000.00010100	.1111 000000	192.168.20.224/27
7-0	11000000.10101000.00010100	.111000 00	192.168.20.224/30
7-1	11000000.10101000.00010100	.111001 00	192.168.20.228/30
7-2	11000000.10101000.00010100	.111010 00	192.168.20.232/30
7-3	11000000.10101000.00010100	.111011 00	192.168.20.236/30
7-4	11000000.10101000.00010100	.111100 00	192.168.20.240/30
7-5	11000000.10101000.00010100	.111101 00	192.168.20.244/30
7-6	11000000.10101000.00010100	.111110 00	192.168.20.248/30
7-7	11000000.10101000.00010100	.111111 00	192.168.20.252/30

Subnetting a subnet

To create smaller subnets for the WAN links, one of the subnets will be divided. In this example, the last subnet, 192.168.20.224/27, will be further subnetted.

Recall that when the number of needed host addresses is known, the formula $2^n - 2$ (where n equals the number of host bits remaining) can be used. To provide two usable addresses, 2 host bits must be left in the host portion.

Because there are 5 host bits in the subnetted 192.168.20.224/27 address space, 3 more bits can be borrowed, leaving 2 bits in the host portion, as shown in Figure 2. The calculations at this point are exactly the same as those used for traditional subnetting. The bits are borrowed, and the subnet ranges are determined.

This VLSM subnetting scheme reduces the number of addresses per subnet to a size

Introduction to Network > https://static-course-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/T1N6/en/index.html#8.1.5.5

Building A: 192.168.20.0/27
 Building B: 192.168.20.32/27
 Building C: 192.168.20.64/27
 Building D: 192.168.20.96/27

R1: 192.168.20.0/30
 R2: 192.168.20.228/30
 R3: 192.168.20.232/30

```

R3(config)# interface gigabitethernet 0/0
R3(config-if)# ip address 192.168.20.65 255.255.255.252
R3(config-if)# exit
R3(config)# interface serial 0/0/0
R3(config-if)# ip address 192.168.20.230 255.255.255.252
R3(config-if)# exit
R3(config)# interface serial1 0/0/1
R3(config-if)# ip address 192.168.20.233 255.255.255.252
R3(config-if)# end
R3#
  
```

- Default gateway for Building A hosts (192.168.20.0/27) will be 192.168.20.1.
- Default gateway for Building B hosts (192.168.20.32/27) will be 192.168.20.33.
- Default gateway for Building C hosts (192.168.20.64/27) will be 192.168.20.65.
- Default gateway for Building D hosts (192.168.20.96/27) will be 192.168.20.97.

Introduction to Network > Subnetting IP Networks > Subnetting an IPv4 Network > Benefits of Variable Length Subnet Masking > VLSM Chart

Basic Subnetting of 192.168.20.0/24

	/27 Network	Hosts
Building A	.0	.1 - .30
Building B	.32	.33 - .62
Building C	.64	.65 - .94
Building D	.96	.97 - .126
WAN R1 - R2	.128	.129 - .158
WAN R2 - R3	.160	.161 - .190
WAN R3 - R4	.192	.193 - .222
Unused	.224	.225 - .254

VLSM Chart

An addressing chart can be used to identify which blocks of addresses are available for use and which ones are already assigned, as shown in Figure 1. This method helps to prevent assigning addresses that have already been allocated.

In order to use the address space more efficiently, /30 subnets are created for WAN links, as shown in the VLSM chart in Figure 2. To keep the unused blocks of addresses together in a block of contiguous address space, the last /27 subnet was further subnetted to create the /30 subnets. The first 3 subnets were assigned to WAN links.

Designing the addressing scheme in this way leaves 3 unused, contiguous /27 subnets and 5 unused contiguous /30 subnets.

Introduction to Network > Subnetting IP Networks > Subnetting an IPv4 Network > Benefits of Variable Length Subnet Masking > VLSM Chart

VLSM Subnetting of 192.168.20.0/24

	/27 Network	Hosts
Blgd A	.0	.1 - .30
Blgd B	.32	.33 - .62
Blgd C	.64	.65 - .94
Blgd D	.96	.97 - .126
Unused	.128	.129 - .158
Unused	.160	.161 - .190
Unused	.192	.193 - .222
Unused	.224	.225 - .254

	/30 Network	Hosts
WAN R1-R2	.224	.225 - .226
WAN R2-R3	.228	.229 - .230
WAN R3-R4	.232	.233 - .234
Unused	.236	.237 - .238
Unused	.240	.241 - .242
Unused	.244	.245 - .246
Unused	.248	.249 - .250
Unused	.252	.253 - .254

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Introduction to Network > Subnetting IP Networks > Addressing Schemes > Structured Design > Network Address Planning

Planning IP Address Assignment

Planning network subnets requires examination of both the needs of an organization's network usage, and how the subnets will be structured. Performing a network requirement study is the starting point. This means looking at the entire network and determining the main sections of the network and how they will be segmented. The address plan includes determining the needs of each subnet in terms of size, how many hosts per subnet, how host addresses will be assigned, which hosts will require static IPv4 addresses, and which hosts can use DHCP for obtaining their addressing information.

The size of the subnet involves planning the number of hosts that will require IPv4 host addresses in each subnet of the subdivided private network. For example, in a campus network design, you might consider how many hosts are needed in the Administrative LAN, how many in the Faculty LAN, and how many in the Student LAN. In a home network, a consideration might be done by the number of hosts in the Main House LAN and the number

Planning requires decisions on each subnet in terms of size, the number of hosts per subnet, and how host addresses will be assigned.

Introduction to Networks

Primary Considerations when Planning Address Allocations

Preventing the duplication of addresses refers to the fact that each host in an internetwork must have a unique address. Without the proper planning and documentation, an address could be assigned to more than one host, resulting in access issues for both hosts.

Providing and controlling access refers to the fact that some hosts, such as servers, provide resources to internal hosts as well as to external hosts. The Layer 3 address assigned to a server can be used to control access to that server. If, however, the address is randomly assigned and not well documented, controlling access is more difficult.

Monitoring security and performance of hosts means network traffic is examined for source IP addresses that are generating or receiving excessive packets. If there is proper planning and documentation of the network addressing, problematic network devices should easily be found.

Introduction to Networks

IP Address Ranges

Assigning Addresses to Devices

Within a network, there are different types of devices that require addresses, including:

- **End user clients** - Most networks allocate addresses dynamically using Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP). This reduces the burden on network support staff and virtually eliminates entry errors. As well, addresses are only leased for a period of time. Changing the subnetting scheme means that the DHCP server needs to be reconfigured, and the clients must renew their IP addresses. IPv6 clients can obtain address information using DHCPv6 or SLAAC.
- **Servers and peripherals** - These should have a predictable static IP address. Use consistent numbering system for these

Network: 192.168.1.0/24		
Use	First	Last
Host Devices	.1	.229
Servers	.230	.239
Printers	.240	.249
Intermediary Devices	.250	.253
Gateway (router LAN interface)	.254	

IPv6 subnetting is about building an addressing hierarchy based on the number of subnetworks needed.

An IPv6 link-local address is never subnetted because it exists only on the local link. However, an IPv6 global unicast address can be subnetted.

The IPv6 global unicast address normally consists of a /48 global routing prefix, a 16 bit subnet ID, and a 64 bit interface ID.

The 16 bit subnet ID section of the IPv6 global unicast address can be used by an organization to create internal subnets.