

CLEARED GOVTECH PARTNERS

CompTIA Network+ N10-009

Exam Preparation Booklet — Free Preview

275 practice questions · full answer keys · visual reference
study plan · subnetting & OSI guides · exam-day strategy · glossary quiz

Prepared for our transitioning servicemembers and veterans.

Aligned to the current N10-009 (V9) exam objectives. · This free preview contains a sample of the full 275-question booklet.

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Unlock the full booklet	incl.

In the full booklet — not in this preview

All 275 scenario questions across every domain	LOCKED
Full answer keys with exam cues for every question	LOCKED
8-week study schedule & recommended resources	LOCKED
Career roadmap, acronym glossary & glossary quiz	LOCKED
Exam-day quick reference & funding guide	LOCKED

WELCOME

Build the Foundation Everything Else Stands On.

Network+ is where it starts. Before you defend a network or break into one, you have to understand how it actually moves a packet from one machine to another — the OSI model, IP addressing and subnetting, the ports and protocols, the media and the topologies. This is the foundation that Security+, CySA+, and PenTest+ all assume you already have.

The exam is practical and scenario-based. It hands you a symptom — a site loads by IP but not by name, a new subnet won't pull an address — and asks you to reason from the layer up. Subnetting and the OSI model are the two skills that separate a pass from a near-miss, so the booklet drills both with visual references you can map in your head.

You already troubleshoot under pressure. This is the same discipline applied to wires and addresses: isolate the layer, confirm what works, and fix the one thing that's broken. Let's build the mental model the rest of your cyber career runs on.

— *The team at Cleared GovTech Partners*

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

The Network+ (N10-009) exam at a glance

Exam code	N10-009 (CompTIA Network+ — V9)
Format	Up to 90 questions — multiple-choice and performance-based (PBQs)
Time limit	90 minutes
Passing score	720 on a scale of 100–900
Structure	Five domains — Networking Concepts (23%), Implementation (20%), Operations (19%), Security (14%), Troubleshooting (24%)
Eligibility	No required prerequisite; CompTIA A+ and 9–12 months of hands-on networking experience are recommended
Renewal	Valid 3 years; renew with 30 CEUs (or re-take the current exam)
DoD value	DoD 8140/8570 approved — meets the IAT Level II baseline. Strong in the cleared market.
Style	Practical and scenario-based — subnetting, the OSI model, configuring and securing networks, and systematic troubleshooting

A note on price. A Network+ voucher runs roughly \$369 in the U.S. direct from CompTIA — budget around \$370, and authorized resellers often sell for less. Confirm the current cost on CompTIA's site before you pay. See the funding page near the back, because you may not have to pay it yourself. N10-009 replaced N10-008; this booklet targets the current N10-009 (V9) blueprint.

The Five Domains of Network+

Network+ is weighted toward concepts and troubleshooting. Master the OSI model and subnetting first — they show up everywhere.



DOMAIN 1

Networking Concepts

55 practice questions · exam weight 23%

OFFICIAL EXAM OBJECTIVES FOR THIS DOMAIN

- 1.1 Explain concepts related to the OSI reference model
- 1.2 Compare and contrast networking appliances, applications, and functions
- 1.3 Summarize cloud concepts and connectivity options
- 1.4 Explain common networking ports, protocols, services, and traffic types
- 1.5 Compare and contrast transmission media and transceivers
- 1.6 Compare and contrast network topologies, architectures, and types
- 1.7 Given a scenario, use appropriate IPv4 network addressing
- 1.8 Summarize evolving use cases for modern network environments

Source: CompTIA Network+ N10-009 exam objectives. These are the official objective statements for this domain; download the complete objectives, including every sub-point, directly from CompTIA at comptia.org/certifications/network.

How this booklet helps you excel here

This is the foundation — the OSI model, ports and protocols, IP addressing and subnetting, media, and topologies. Every question turns an abstract concept into a concrete, real-world decision, training the mental model the rest of the exam (and the job) is built on. Pair these with the visual reference pages.

Sample of 5 questions from this domain. The full booklet contains all 275.

1. A field technician is troubleshooting a workstation whose user complains that no websites will load in the browser, yet the same sites open instantly when the user types the numeric IP address into the address bar instead of the domain name. The rest of the network appears healthy. The service responsible for converting human-readable names into IP addresses operates primarily at which layer of the OSI model?

- A.** Layer 3 (Network)
- B.** Layer 2 (Data Link)
- C.** Layer 7 (Application)
- D.** Layer 1 (Physical)

2. A network engineer is documenting how traffic flows through a branch office and needs to record the OSI layer at which the office router makes its forwarding decisions as it moves packets from the internal LAN toward the internet. At which layer of the OSI model does a router primarily operate?

- A. Layer 2 (Data Link)
- B. Layer 3 (Network)
- C. Layer 4 (Transport)
- D. Layer 1 (Physical)

3. During a design review, a junior technician asks how an unmanaged switch decides where to send each frame it receives. A colleague explains that the switch reads the hardware address burned into each device's network interface card. Which type of address is the switch using, and at which OSI layer does that forwarding occur?

- A. IP address at Layer 3 (Network)
- B. MAC address at Layer 2 (Data Link)
- C. Port number at Layer 4 (Transport)
- D. Hostname at Layer 7 (Application)

4. A developer is choosing a transport protocol for a financial application that transfers account records between servers. Every record must arrive intact, in the correct order, and with confirmation that it was received, even if that reliability adds some delay. Which transport-layer protocol best meets these requirements?

- A. UDP
- B. ICMP
- C. TCP
- D. ARP

5. A unified-communications team is deploying a VoIP phone system and wants the transport protocol that keeps call latency as low as possible. The application can tolerate the occasional lost packet but cannot tolerate the delay that retransmissions introduce. Which transport protocol best fits this real-time traffic?

- A. TCP
- B. SMTP
- C. UDP
- D. FTP

Reference

Answer Keys & Explanations

Detailed rationale for every question in the full booklet

DOMAIN 1 — ANSWER KEY

Networking Concepts

1. Correct answer: C — Layer 7 (Application).

DNS — the Domain Name System — is the service that translates human-friendly names such as example.com into the IP addresses machines actually route to, and it lives at Layer 7, the Application layer. The decisive clue is that reaching the site by IP works perfectly while reaching it by name fails: the packets are clearly arriving at their destination, so Layers 1 through 3 are healthy and the only thing broken is the name-to-address lookup, which is a DNS function.

Exam cue: “works by IP but not by name” is the classic signature of a DNS problem, and DNS is a Layer 7 service.

2. Correct answer: B — Layer 3 (Network).

Routers operate at Layer 3, the Network layer, where forwarding decisions are made using logical IP addresses. A router examines a packet's destination IP, consults its routing table, and forwards the packet toward the next network — that IP-based path selection is the defining Layer 3 function.

Memorize the device-to-layer map: hubs at Layer 1, switches at Layer 2, routers at Layer 3. Any device that chooses a path based on IP address is acting at Layer 3.

3. Correct answer: B — MAC address at Layer 2 (Data Link).

A standard switch forwards traffic using MAC (hardware) addresses, and that forwarding happens at Layer 2, the Data Link layer. Every network interface card ships with a unique 48-bit MAC address, and the switch builds a table mapping each MAC to the physical port behind it, then delivers each frame only out the port where its destination lives.

The phrase “hardware address burned into the NIC” always points to a MAC address at Layer 2.

4. Correct answer: C — TCP.

TCP, the Transmission Control Protocol, is the connection-oriented transport protocol that guarantees reliable, in-order delivery. It opens a session with a three-way handshake, numbers every segment, acknowledges what it receives, and retransmits anything lost — exactly the guarantees a financial record transfer requires, even at the cost of some added latency.

When a question stresses guaranteed, ordered, acknowledged delivery and accepts the trade-off of speed, the answer is TCP.

5. Correct answer: C — UDP.

UDP, the User Datagram Protocol, is connectionless and low-overhead, which makes it the right fit for real-time media like VoIP. It sends datagrams without a handshake, acknowledgments, or retransmissions, so there is no delay waiting to recover a lost packet — and for live voice, a packet that arrives late is worse than one that never arrives.

The exam signature here is “real-time, low latency, can tolerate some loss” — that is always UDP.

YOU'VE SEEN THE SAMPLE

Unlock the full Network+ booklet

This preview is a taste. The complete 275-question booklet takes you through every domain with the same scenario-driven questions and plain-language explanations — built to match how the real N10-009 exam thinks.

- ✓ All 275 scenario questions across every domain
- ✓ Full answer keys with exam cues for every question
- ✓ 8-week study schedule & recommended resources
- ✓ Career roadmap, acronym glossary & glossary quiz
- ✓ Exam-day quick reference & funding guide

You may not have to pay for this yourself.

Transitioning servicemembers and veterans can often fund the exam fee and training through Credentialing Assistance (Army CA / COOL), the GI Bill, or VET TEC. The full booklet includes a step-by-step funding guide. Ask us how to get your voucher covered before you pay out of pocket.

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