

## **Computer Network**

A computer network is a group of computer systems and other computing hardware devices that are linked together through communication channels to facilitate communication and resource-sharing among a wide range of users.

### **Types of Network**

- Local Area Networks (LANs)
- Metropolitan Area Networks (MANs)
- Wide Area Networks (WANs)

#### **1. Local Area Networks (LAN)**

A local area network (LAN) is a network that connects computers and devices in a limited geographical area such as a home, school, office building, or closely positioned group of buildings.

- Each computer or device on the network is a node.
- Wired LANs are most likely based on Ethernet technology.

#### **2. Metropolitan Area Networks**

- It is relatively larger than LAN and extends across a city or a metropolitan.
- It is created by connecting two or more LANs located at different locations in a city.

#### **3. Wide Area Network (WAN)**

A wide area network (WAN) is a computer network that covers a large geographic area such as a city, country, or spans even intercontinental distances.

- A WAN uses a communications channel that combines many types of media such as telephone lines, cables, and air waves.
- A WAN often makes use of transmission facilities provided by common carriers, such as telephone companies.
- One of the most prominent examples of the existing wans is the Internet.