

UDP (User Datagram Protocol)

The User Datagram Protocol (UDP) is a very simple layer over the host-to-host Internet Protocol (IP). It only adds 16-bit source and destination port numbers for multiplexing between different applications on the pair of hosts, and 16-bit length and checksum fields. It has been defined in [RFC 768](#).

UDP is used directly for protocols such as the Domain Name System (DNS) or the Network Time Protocol (NTP), which consists on isolated request-response transactions between hosts, where the negotiation and maintenance of [TCP](#) connections would be prohibitive.

There are other protocols layered on top of UDP, for example the [Real-time Transport Protocol](#) (RTP) used in real-time media applications. [UDT](#), [VFER](#), [RB](#) [UDP](#), [Tsunami](#), and [Hurricane](#) are examples of UDP-based bulk transport protocols.

References

- [RFC 768](#), *User Datagram Protocol*, J. Postel, August 1980

– Main.SimonLeinen - 31 Oct 2004 - 02 Apr 2006