

What do client and protocol mean, from Linksys

Every networked computer can communicate with each other through a type of software that is already included with your computer's operating system, such as Windows. The software runs in the background and plays an integral role in specifying the "techie" aspects of networking. Client and protocol are two important components in networking software.

Client - The software that provides your computer with access to the network's services. The computer that requests the information from a network is usually referred to as the client. For example, when you are surfing the Internet, your computer makes client requests to receive a Web site from somewhere in the U.S. or anywhere around the world.

Protocol - This is the language that the computers use to communicate with each other. The industry standard in networking today is called TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol). Along with your home network, it is the same protocol used most commonly on the Internet.



Network clients and protocols are necessary for a functioning network.