

The Seven Layer OSI Model:

1) Physical Layer

The lowest layer of the model, it provides the transmission of data. This layer defines electrical and mechanical properties.

- examples: coaxial cable, twisted pair, CAT 5, fiber optic cable

2) Data Link Layer

This layer controls the transmission of blocks of data between network peers over a physical link. It monitors and resolves errors that may occur on the physical layer.

- examples: 802.3 Ethernet, 802.4, 802.5

3) Network Layer

The third layer routes data from one network node to others.

- examples: ARP, RARP, IP, ICMP, BOOTP

4) Transport Layer

This layer ensures that data from the source arrives at the destination correctly and in proper sequence.

- examples: TCP, UDP

5) Session Layer

The layer provides the capability for cooperating applications to synchronize and manage their dialog and data exchange.

- examples: SNMP, SMTP, FTP, TELNET, DNS, XDMA

6) Presentation Layer

This provides services that interpret the meaning of the information exchanged.

- examples: MPEG decoding

7) Application Layer

This layer directly serves the end user. It supports end applications such as file transfer and database access.

- examples: MPEG rendering

XDMA is a Session Layer protocol, which sits on top of UDP (a Transport Layer protocol), which sits on IP (a Network Layer protocol). In general, any Physical and Data Link protocols which support IP will also support UDP and XDMA. You may also be asked about TCP/IP networks. While it is technically incorrect to say "XDMA runs on TCP/IP", all TCP/IP implementations support UDP, and therefore will support XDMA.