



If definitions are helpful to you, use these vocabulary terms in order to get you started:

- **Address** - The unique number ID assigned to one host or interface in a network.
- **Subnet** - A portion of a network that shares a particular subnet address.

In a Class A address, the first octet is the network portion, so the Class A example in [Figure 1](#) has a major network address of 1.0.0.0 - 127.255.255.255. Octets 2, 3, and 4 (the next 24 bits) are for the network manager to divide into subnets and hosts as he/she sees fit. Class A addresses are used for networks that have more than 65,536 hosts (actually, up to 16777214 hosts!).

In a Class B address, the first two octets are the network portion, so the Class B example in [Figure 1](#) has a major network address of 128.0.0.0 - 191.255.255.255. Octets 3 and 4 (16 bits) are for local subnets and hosts. Class B addresses are used for networks that have between 256 and 65534 hosts.

In a Class C address, the first three octets are the network portion. The Class C example in [Figure 1](#) has a major network address of 192.0.0.0 - 223.255.255.255. Octet 4 (8 bits) is for local subnets and hosts - perfect for networks with less than 254 hosts.

## Network Masks

A network mask helps you know which portion of an IP address is the network portion (now we nets)Tj 1 0 0 1



subnets you have available. However, the more subnets available, the less host addresses available per subnet. For example, a Class C network of 204.17.5.0 and a mask of 255.255.255.224 (/27) allows you to have eight subnets, each with 32 host addresses (30 of which could be assigned to devices). If you use a mask of 255.255.255.240 (/28), the break down is:

```

204.17.5.0 -      11001100.00010001.00000101.00000000
255.255.255.240 - 11111111.11111111.11111111.11110000
                   -----|sub |-----

```

Since you now have four bits to make subnets with, you only have four bits left for host addresses. So you can have up to 16 subnets, each of which can have up to 16 host addresses (14 of which can be assigned to devices).

Take a look at how a Class B network might be subnetted. If you have network 172.16.0.0, then you know that its natural mask is 255.255.0.0 or 172.16.0.0/16. Extending the mask to anything beyond 255.255.0.0 means you are subnetting. You can quickly see that you have the ability to create a lot more subnets than with the Class C network. If you use a mask of 255.255.248.0 (/21), how many subnets and hosts per subnet does it allow for?

```

172.16.0.0 -      10101100.00010000.00000000.00000000
255.255.248.0 - 11111111.11111111.11111000.00000000
                   -----| sub |-----

```





netB: must support 28 hosts

netC: must support 2 hosts

netD: must support 7 hosts

netE: must support 28 host

Determine what mask allows the required number of (ofosts)T.j ET BT 1 0 0 1 36 74215.7m /F4 9 Tf (netB:

[Figure 5](#) illustrates how using VLSM helped save more than half of the address space.

## **CIDR**

Classless Interdomain Routing (CIDR) was introduced in RFC 1517 to improve address space utilization.

!(subnet 64)