

Network Architect Job Description

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Collaborate with the organization's management to identify the network needs of the company
- Design and create data communication networks – LAN, WAN, or Intranets
- Determine the most suitable hardware and software drivers to be utilized
- Install hardware adaptors and configure network drivers for software
- Maintain existing network adaptors and upgrade obsolete hardware and software components
- Troubleshoot and fix network bugs and problems
- Review network vendors and suppliers to ensure that quality materials are supplied
- Arrange for project transfer as well as teach employees how best to utilize network facilities
- Monitor and coordinate the work of other IT specialist working on the same project to ensure compliance to enterprise plan
- Design network plan and prototype and explain to the management why it is in the enterprise's best interest to adopt such plan
- Assist the organization in deciding the best network plan to pursue, its long term benefit, profitability, and cost implications
- Ensure that any network connections do not interfere with data flow or make it vulnerable to attack
- Keep accurate record of operations so as to serve as point of reference in times of need
- Communicate with enterprise architect and management on the progress of projects.

Network Architect Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities

- Education: To be considered for an entry-level network architect position, you need a minimum of Bachelor's qualification in any IT

related course. However, to advance to a lead role or as a network administrator with large IT firm, an advanced qualification is often required

- Training: Having a degree in IT related discipline prepares one for a career in the information technology field. However, what actually differentiate a network architect from other IT professionals is training and certification in network products and proficiency that comes with such training. So, a network architect must have undergone training in network product use. These trainings and certifications are usually organized by various IT product vendors
- Analytical skills and attention to detail: A network architect must be able to study and understand the network needs of an organization before deciding on the best network plan to design for the enterprise. He/she must also be attentive so as to avoid costly errors
- Communication ability: The work of a network architect involves constant communication with other IT professionals working in the enterprise, as well as communication with management and other employees. So, outstanding communication ability is often required of a network architect.