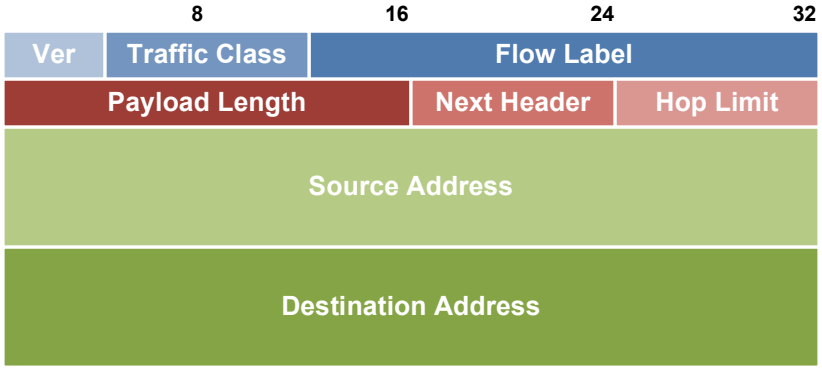
IPv6

packetlife.net

Protocol Header



Version (4 bits) · Always set to 6

Traffic Class (8 bits) · A DSCP value for QoS

Flow Label (20 bits) · Identifies unique flows (optional)

Payload Length (16 bits) · Length of the payload in bytes

Next Header (8 bits) · Header or protocol which follows

Hop Limit (8 bits) · Similar to IPv4's time to live field

Source Address (128 bits) · Source IP address

Destination Address (128 bits) · Destination IP address

Address Types

Unicast · One-to-one communication

Multicast · One-to-many communication

Anycast · An address configured in multiple locations

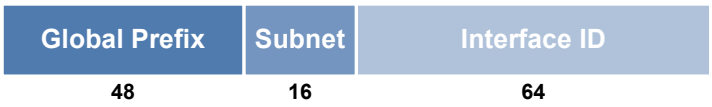
Address Notation

· Eliminate leading zeros from all two-byte sets

· Replace up to one string of consecutive zeros with a double-colon (::)

Address Formats

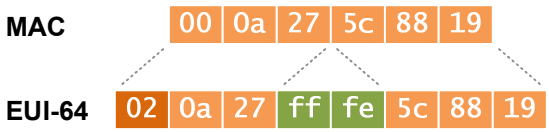
Global unicast



Link-local unicast

Multicast

EUI-64 Formation



· Insert 0xfffe between the two halves of the MAC

· Flip the seventh bit (universal/local flag) to 1

Multicast Scopes

1 Interface-local	**5** Site-local
2 Link-local	**8** Org-local
4 Admin-local	**E** Global

Special-Use Ranges

::/0	Default route
::/128	Unspecified
::1/128	Loopback
::/96	IPv4-compatible*
::FFFF:0:0/96	IPv4-mapped
2001::/32	Teredo
2001:DB8::/32	Documentation
2002::/16	6to4
FC00::/7	Unique local
FE80::/10	Link-local unicast
FEC0::/10	Site-local unicast*
FF00::/8	Multicast

* Deprecated

Extension Headers

Hop-by-hop Options (0)
Carries additional information which must be examined by every router in the path

Routing (43)
Provides source routing functionality

Fragment (44)
Included when a packet has been fragmented by its source

Encapsulating Security Payload (50)
Provides payload encryption (IPsec)

Authentication Header (51)
Provides packet authentication (IPsec)

Destination Options (60)
Carries additional information which pertains only to the recipient

Transition Mechanisms

Dual Stack
Transporting IPv4 and IPv6 across an infrastructure simultaneously

Tunneling
IPv6 traffic is encapsulated into IPv4 using IPv6-in-IP, UDP (Teredo), or Intra-Site Automatic Tunnel Addressing Protocol (ISATAP)

Translation
Stateless IP/ICMP Translation (SIIT) translates IP header fields, NAT Protocol Translation (NAT-PT) maps between IPv6 and IPv4 addresses