

# Ice Architecture

Ice is an object-oriented middleware platform. Fundamentally, this means that Ice provides tools, APIs, and library support for building object-oriented client-server applications. Ice applications are suitable for use in heterogeneous environments: client and server can be written in different programming languages, can run on different operating systems and machine architectures, and can communicate using a variety of networking technologies. The source code for these applications is portable regardless of the deployment environment.

## Topics:

- [Terminology](#)
- [Slice \(Specification Language for Ice\)](#)
- [Language Mappings](#)
- [Client and Server Structure](#)
- [Overview of the Ice Protocol](#)

## See Also

- [Ice Services](#)
- [Architectural Benefits of Ice](#)