# Network Documentation Creation

This process outlines the steps necessary to document network infrastructure, including configurations and change management, which serves to keep accurate records for maintenance and troubleshooting.

### Step 1: Inventory

Create a comprehensive inventory list of all network hardware and software. Include items such as routers, switches, firewalls, access points, and management systems.

### Step 2: Topography

Map out the network topology. Use diagramming software to visualize the network, showing how devices are interconnected including network segments, and connection points.

### Step 3: Configuration

Document current configurations of network devices. This should include IP addresses, routing protocols, VLAN configurations, and security settings.

### Step 4: Change Log

Establish a change management log. Record all changes made to the network, by whom, and why. Detail the change's impact and any necessary rollback steps.

### Step 5: Policies

Detail network policies, including security policies, access control lists (ACLs), and user policies. Clarify responsibilities and procedures for policy enforcement.

### Step 6: Update Routine

Develop a regular schedule to update the documentation. Determine how often each kind of information requires reviewing and who is responsible for updates.

### Step 7: Backup

Implement a system for backing up the documentation. Ensure that backup copies are stored securely and are readily accessible when needed.

## General Notes

### Version Control

Consider using version control to keep track of changes in network documentation, allowing you to revert to previous versions if necessary.

### Tool Selection

Choose documentation tools carefully, ensuring that they meet the organization's needs and allow for collaborative updates and sharing.

### Security

Keep the documentation secure to prevent unauthorized access. Use encryption, passwords, and control the distribution of sensitive information.