

Tor Overview

- **Onion Routing** was developed in the mid-90s by US Naval Research to protect U.S. intelligence communications online. **Tor is an implementation of Onion Routing.**
- **Tor** (acronym for **The Onion Router**) is an OpenSource and Free, privacy-focused network that hides your traffic, by routing it through multiple random servers also called relays on the Tor network. This way you can **browse privately** and **explore freely** by defending yourself against tracking and surveillance and **circumventing censorship**.
- In an **onion network like Tor**, messages are encapsulated in more layers of encryption, analogous to layers of an onion and transmitted anonymously through a series of network nodes called **onion routers or Tor Relays**.
- These relays are run by volunteers around the world, and millions of people rely on them for privacy and freedom online everyday.
- **Tor** is both a **network** and a **piece of software** (the Tor Browser) and are both referred as Tor.
- Tor offers anonymity not confidentiality.