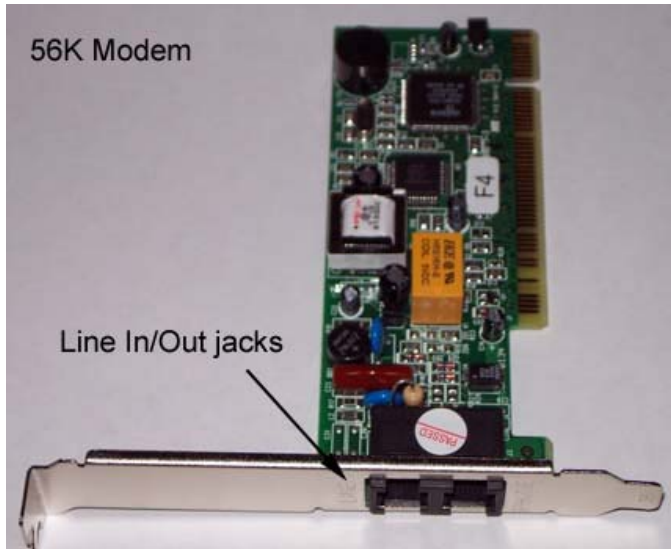


What is a network card?

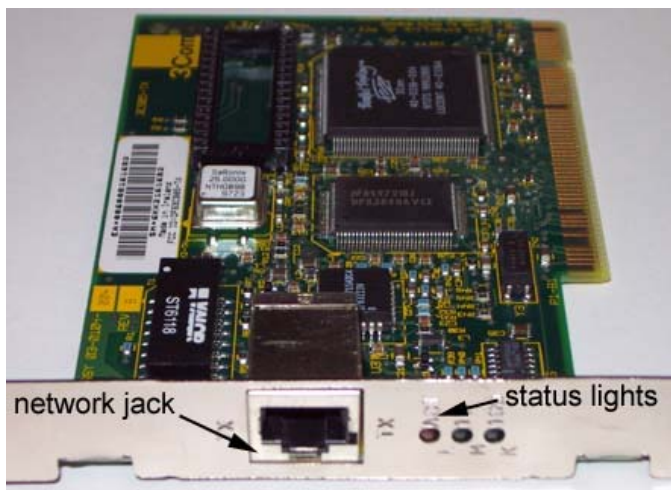
Because this question cannot be answered without using the words "Network" and "Card", it is best answered using pictures.



The card on the left is a **56K Modem**. It is used for dialup internet service and cannot be used for high speed network access.

A network cable will not fit in the in/out jacks as they are designed to only accommodate telephone cords.

The jacks use telephone cords that have 4 copper connecting contacts.

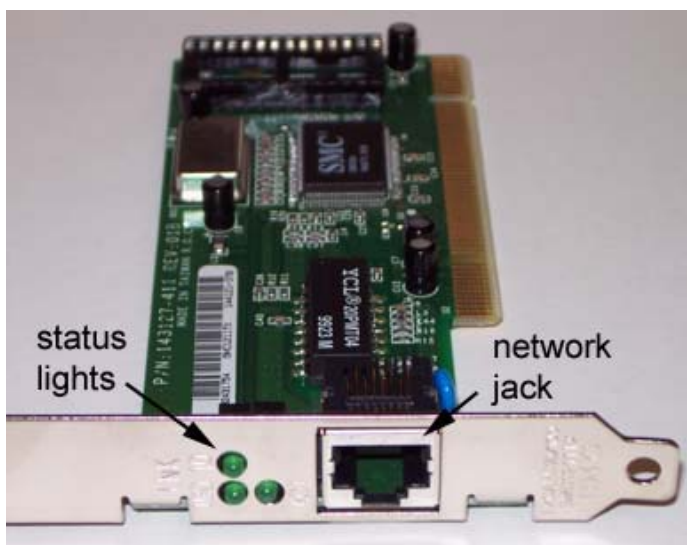


The card on the left is a **Network Card**, also sometimes referred to as an Ethernet card.

While appearing slightly similar to a modem, they are not the same and cannot perform the same functions.

Network cards use network cables (**RJ-45**) that have **8** copper contacts. Phone cords will **NOT** work.

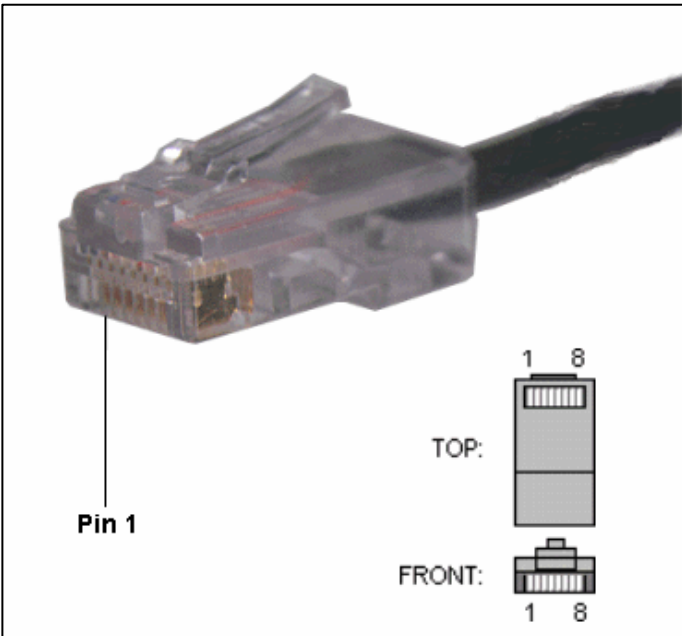
Some network cards have status lights that indicate whether or not they are functioning. Most cards that do possess status lights have one that will constantly remain on.



This is another example of a Network Card.



This is an example of a Network Cable also known as RJ-45



This is a closer look at the end of a Network Cable (RJ-45)