

What **Really** Happens When You Tap on a Wi-Fi Network?

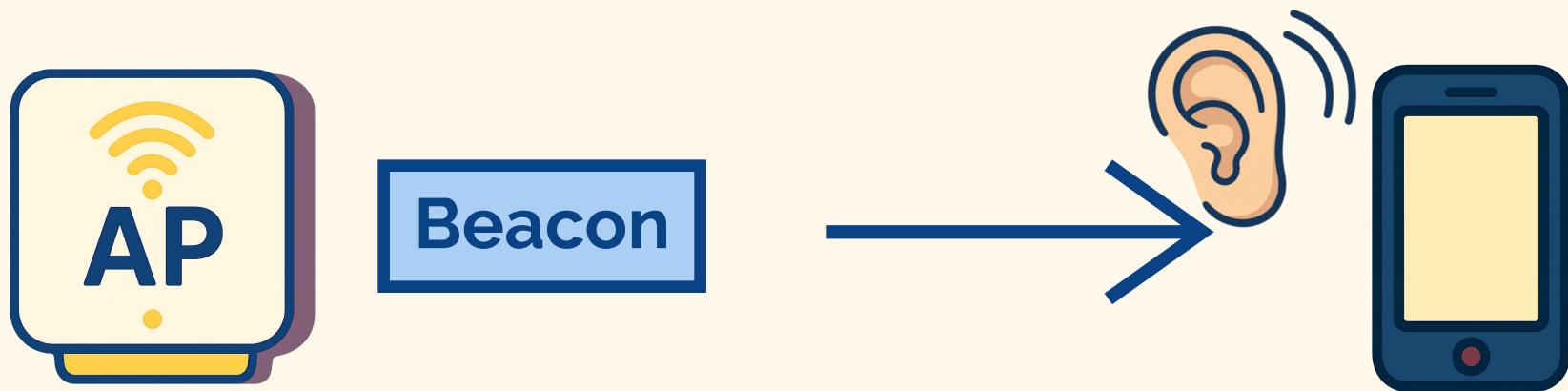


1. The Wi-Fi Network List

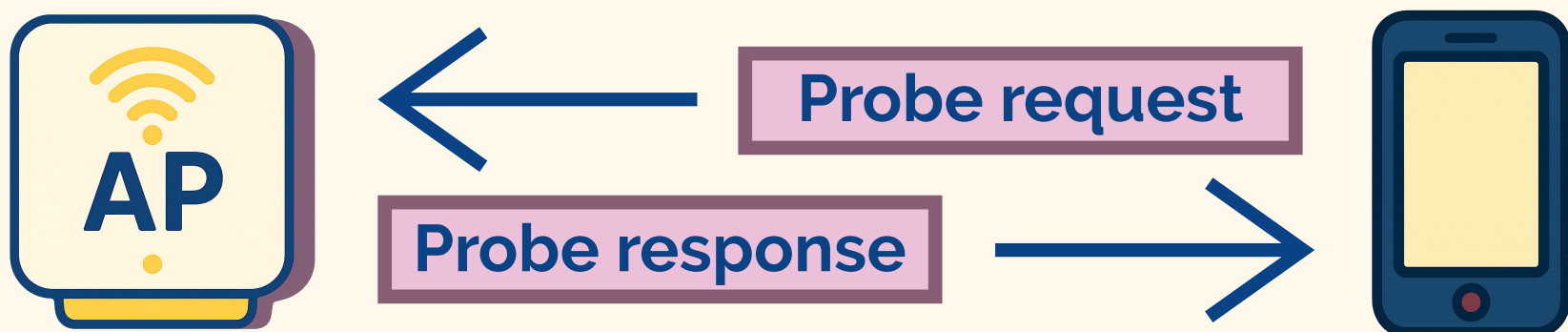
Before connecting, networks appear using scans..



Passive Scan - Listen for Beacons

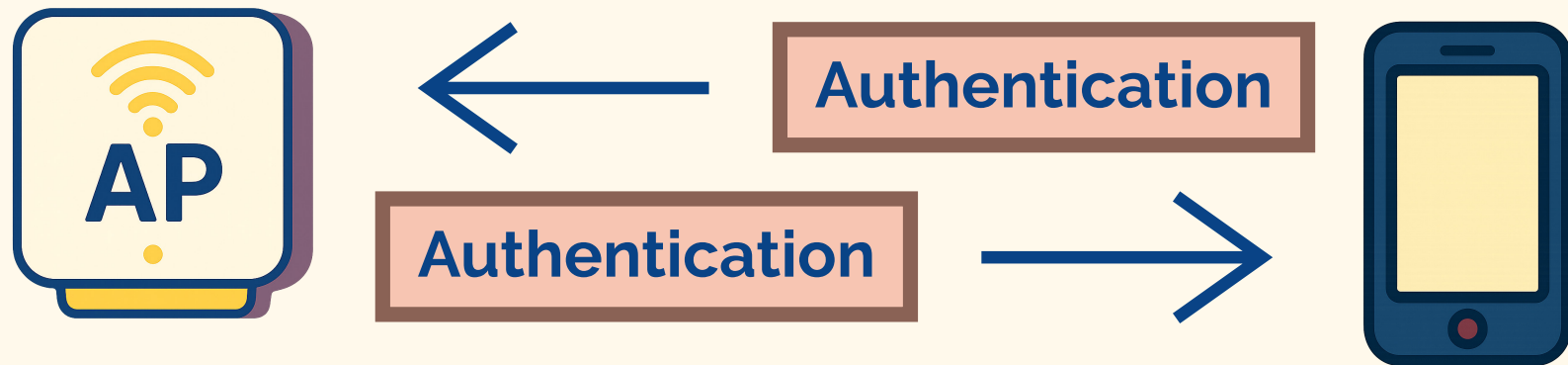


Active Scan - Probe Requests for networks



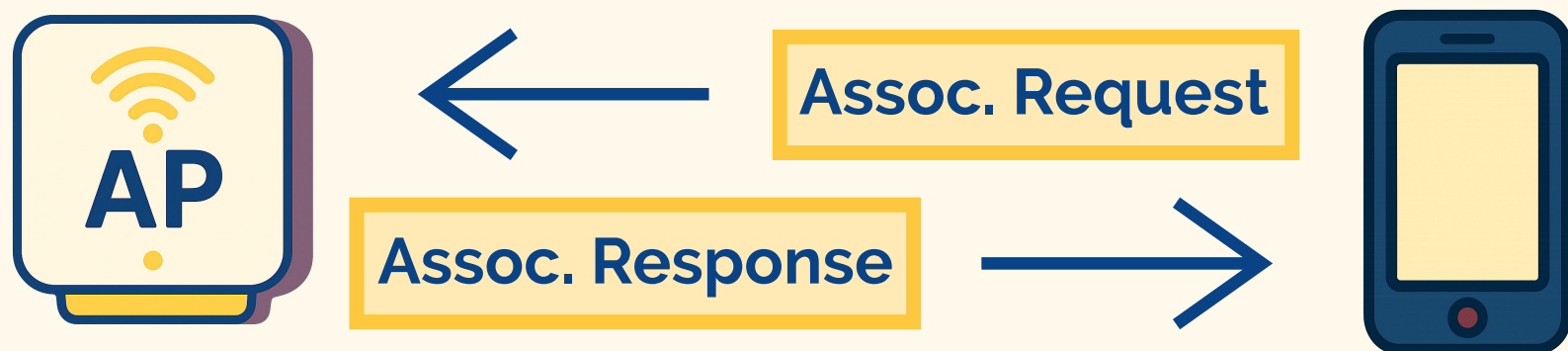
2. The Loading Page

While you wait, the client and AP exchange authentication frames,



*WPA3-SAE will have 4 authentication frames.
(2 SAE-Commit, 2 SAE-Confirm)

and then association requests/responses.



If it fails before entering credentials, there may be compatibility issues.



Unable to Join Network

Your iPhone could not join the network "CoffeeShopWiFi".

3. Enter Credentials

When you enter a password, this starts the 4-way handshake.



If the credentials are wrong, you'll get an error after message 2.



Otherwise, the 4-way handshake completes.



4. Success

Once the client authenticates, you are connected to the network.



If the client doesn't show it's connected anymore, the client may have disassociated/deauthenticated,



or the AP disassociated/deauthenticated it.



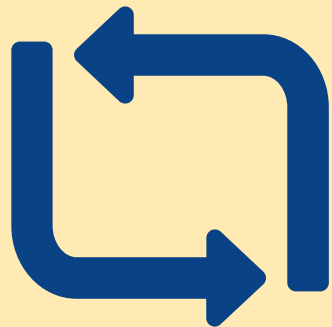
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