

# NETWORK FOUNDATIONS

## EXAM DATA SHEET

### FORMAT / STRUCTURE



**Associate**  
2 Hours

Hands-on Proctored lab-based exam utilizing the same environment as in the Arista Academy labs.

Conducted virtually from your environment, no requirement to travel to an exam center

Open-book, timed sessions

Each exam session is based on one of several possible scenarios. Topics covered and/or testing methods may vary.

### SUMMARY OF EXAM

The Arista **Network Foundations** exam validates your ability to turn technical documentation into working configurations, making sure both the physical and logical builds match the given specifications. Exam scenarios focus on maintaining accuracy and operational discipline while you work through complex, multi-stage implementation tasks.

You'll be tested on deploying Data Link resiliency and high-availability gateway protocols, with an emphasis on creating loop-free topologies and ensuring endpoints remain reachable in a leaf-spine environment. The exam also will validate your ability to establish and verify dynamic routing neighbor relationships so that reachability stays consistent.

Finally, the exam measures your skills in system hardening and policy-based filtering. You must show how to apply security controls to the control plane and management interfaces, so device security and logging policies are auditable and consistent.

### HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL / PREPARATION TIPS

- Execute repeatable workflows for configuration, troubleshooting, and validation
- Be proficient with verification commands
- Know where to find key data in CloudVision
- Bookmark the Arista EOS configuration guides
- Practice the course labs
- Although this is an open-book exam, you will not have time to research fundamental concepts

### PREREQUISITES

Although there are no prerequisites, knowledge of the related course materials is critical.

## Associate Exam Objective



The Arista **Network Foundations** exam evaluates your ability to configure and verify key networking features in EOS-based environments, including MLAG, OSPF for underlay routing, and CloudVision management. Candidates are expected to demonstrate hands-on proficiency in setting up MLAG domains, port-channels, VARP, and SVIs, configuring OSPF point-to-point links, multi-area topologies, network security and access control lists. The exam emphasizes a systematic approach to lab-based tasks, using topology diagrams, addressing tables, and verification commands to ensure connectivity, redundancy, and compliance in leaf-spine architectures.

### SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

To successfully complete the exam tasks, the candidate must possess the following technical skills:

#### MLAG Configuration and Management

- **MLAG domain setup:** Creating domains with peer links, VLANs, trunk groups, and local/peer interfaces.
- **Port-channel integration:** Configuring MLAG-aware port-channels on Ethernet interfaces for host or switch connections, including mode active and MLAG IDs.
- **VARP and SVI setup:** Enabling virtual-router MAC addresses, configuring SVIs with IP addresses and virtual-router addresses for redundancy.
- **Verification:** Using verification commands to confirm interface states, and VIP connectivity.

#### OSPF Routing fundamentals

- **Interface configuration:** Setting up point-to-point IP interfaces and loopback addresses based on topology and addressing schemes.
- **OSPF backbone and areas:** Enabling OSPF for spine-leaf connectivity, configuring router IDs from loopbacks, and setting point-to-point network types.
- **Multi-area setups:** Extending OSPF to non-backbone areas on specific leaves, including host connections and adjacency formation.
- **Advertising and adjacency:** Advertising networks, enabling adjacencies with no passive-interface, and verifying with commands.

#### Monitoring and Troubleshooting

- **Connectivity checks:** Verifying IP reachability, port-channel status, and routing tables across MLAG and OSPF setups.
- **Diagnostic commands:** Proficiency in show commands for MLAG states and OSPF neighbors/routes to isolate and resolve issues.

For more information, refer to exam policies and procedures  
[www.training.arista.com](http://www.training.arista.com) – under CERTIFICATION menu

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