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# 9 The Network Kit

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The Network Kit is a collection of global C functions that let you communicate with other computers through the TCP or UDP protocols. The names and intents of the functions, with two exceptions, adhere to the precedent set by the BSD network/socket implementation, with two notable exceptions:

- The Kit provides the Be-specific `getusername()` and `getpasswd()` functions to make up for the current lack of system-wide password information. Use these functions instead of the expected `getpwent()`.
- To close a socket, use the Be-specific `closesocket()` instead of `close()`.

Furthermore, some BSD-defined functions are not yet implemented. See the header files **net/socket.h** and **net/netdb.h** for a complete list of the network API that's supported by the Kit. The Kit is, otherwise, currently undocumented.

