

# Hashgraph

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**Hashgraph** is a [Distributed Ledger Technology \(DLT\)](#) that has been described as an alternative to [Blockchains](#). The Hashgraph technology is currently patented, and the only authorized ledger is Hedera Hashgraph. The native cryptocurrency of the Hedera Hashgraph system is **HBAR**.

Unlike blockchains, Hashgraphs do not use [Miner Nodes](#) to validate [Transactions](#). Instead, Hashgraph use a "gossip about gossip" protocol where the individual [Nodes](#) on the network "gossip" about transactions to create [Directed Acyclic Graphs \(DAGs\)](#) that time-sequence transactions without bundling them into blocks. Each "gossip" message contains one or more transactions plus a timestamp, a digital signature, and cryptographic hashes of two earlier events. This makes Hashgraph form an asynchronous Byzantine Fault-Tolerant (aBFT) consensus algorithm.

Hashgraph was invented in the mid-2010s by the American computer scientist Leemon Baird. Baird is the co-founder and chief technical officer of Swirlds, a company that holds patents covering the Hashgraph algorithm.

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