The design goals of a MAC protocol for ad hoc wireless networks are:

- 1. Distributed Operation: Decentralized decision-making for efficient medium access.
- 2. Collision Avoidance: Minimize simultaneous transmissions to prevent signal interference.
- 3. Energy Efficiency: Reduce power usage for battery-powered devices.
- 4. Fairness: Equitably share the channel resources among nodes.
- 5. Scalability: Work well in networks of varying sizes.
- 6. Adaptability: Quickly adjust to dynamic changes like node mobility.
- 7. QoS Support: Prioritize traffic based on application requirements.
- 8. Hidden Terminal Mitigation: Address issues when nodes can't hear each other.
- 9. Security: Protect against unauthorized access and attacks.
- 10. Channel Utilization: Efficiently use available channel bandwidth.
- 11. Multimedia Traffic: Handle diverse data rate and delay needs.

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