

# Do I need to plug in both fiber optic ports on the switch



## Overview

An introduction to SFP ports on a Gigabit switch Combo SFP ports on a switch offer support for both SFP and RJ45 ports using a single interface. Users can't.

## Key Takeaways

To connect two fiber optic ports on switches, use compatible SFP transceivers with duplex fiber cables, ensuring proper fiber type, connector, and port configuration. Required Equipment SFP Transceiver Modules: Each switch must have an SFP (Small Form-factor Pluggable) module installed in the fiber port. Ensure the modules are compatible with the fiber type (single-mode or multimode) and the desired speed (1G SFP, 10G SFP+, etc.),.

Duplex Fiber Optic Cable: Use a pre-terminated duplex fiber cable with LC connectors. Duplex cables have two strands: one for transmitting and one for receiving. Optional LC-LC Coupler: If using separate fiber patch cords, an LC-LC coupler can join the fibers between switches.

## Steps to Connect

Check Compatibility: Confirm that both switches' SFP modules match in fiber type, wavelength, and supported distance. Also, verify port speed and duplex mode are compatible.



## Insert SF

**P Modules:** Plug the SFP transceivers into the fiber ports on each switch. Connect  
**Fiber Cable:** Attach the duplex fiber cable to the SFP modules. Ensure the transmit (TX) on one switch connects to the receive (RX) on the other switch, and vice versa.

**Verify Link:** Power on the switches and check the SFP port LEDs. If the link is down, ensure the VLAN interface is enabled (e.g., no shutdown on VLAN 1 for Cisco switches) and that the SFP modules are recognized. **Configure Network Settings:** Assign VLANs or trunking as needed to allow communication between devices on both switches.

For simple connectivity, the default VLAN may suffice.

## Tips

**Use Pre-terminated Cables:** Saves time and reduces errors compared to field-terminated fiber. **Limit Cascading Layers:** For multiple switches, avoid cascading more than four layers to maintain performance. **Check Optical Power:** Ensure the optical power and sensitivity of the SFP modules are within the same range to prevent link issues.

**Clean Connectors:** Always clean fiber connectors before connecting to avoid signal loss. By following these steps and ensuring compatibility between SFP modules and fiber cables, you can successfully connect two fiber optic ports on switches for high-speed, reliable network communication.

## Article Content

An introduction to SFP ports on a Gigabit switch

Combo SFP ports on a switch offer support for both SFP and RJ45 ports using a single interface. Users can't use both ports simultaneously, however, as only one type works at a time.

Connecting Network Switches via Fiber

Always integrate duplex (two strand) fiber optic cabling or higher strand counts. Most modern SFP transceiver modules feature duplex LC connections. Terminate your fiber optic cabling with two LC

Application Guide: Connecting Fiber-ready Network

SFP transceiver modules almost always require two fiber optic cable strands. Always integrate duplex (two strand) fiber optic cabling or higher strand counts.

Fiber Optic Switch Guide: Definition, Connection Methods, Cabling ...

A practical B2B guide explaining what a fiber optic switch is, how to connect fiber optic cable to Ethernet switches, how to connect two switches with fiber, how to disconnect fiber safely,

How to use Ubiquiti SFP ports for fiber optic connections

This guide breaks down exactly how to use SFP ports on UniFi switches and gateways for fiber connections, what modules you'll need, and a few real-world tips that'll save you time and money.

How do you connect a switch to fibre?

This guide will walk you through the process of connecting a switch to a fiber optic network, covering the necessary components, steps, and considerations to ensure a smooth setup.

Understanding SFP Switches: The Essential Guide to Fiber and

Connect Fiber Cables: Attach the correct port corresponding to the fiber optic cables to the SFP transceiver. Ensure the ports match and all proper connections are made to the RX and TX ports.

How to connect a new optic fibre to an ethernet switch

If you want to use fibre then buy a switch with 2 SFP ports for the house and switches with at least one sfp port for the remote buildings. At these distances, it doesn't really matter what

Connecting two switches through a fiber cable

If there is no link light when you connect the fiber port, you have most likely a physical layer issue. So, check to see if your SFPs are multimode or single mode. once you find what type of

3 FAQs of Connecting Switches by Fiber Optical Ports

Can two switches with optical ports be directly connected by optical fiber? Yes, the main line of the optical fiber LAN is a direct switch, followed by a router.

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Fiber Optic Connector Types: Full Comparison & Selection Guide LC, SC, FC, ST, MPO/MTP compared: ferrule sizes, polishing types, insertion loss, and a decision flowchart to

## All Kinds of Fiber Optic Patch Cords – SC, LC, FC, ST Explained

Learn about SC, LC, FC, and ST fiber optic patch cords, their uses in FTTH, telecom, and data centers, and how to choose the right type.

## Optical fiber connector

Optical fiber connector LC (top) and ST (bottom) optical fiber connectors, both with protective caps in place An optical fiber connector is a device used to link optical

## Indoor Fiber Optic Cable Types: Top 12 List

Indoor cables connect devices within homes, office buildings, data centers, and other interior spaces. Selecting the right indoor optical fiber cable depends on factors like transmission distance, space

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