

Does the core switch have a built-in firewall



Overview

Network Setup for core and firewall The best way from a security standpoint is to have a physically separate switch connecting the ISP handoff to the firew.

Key Takeaways

Core switches do not have a built-in firewall; they are designed for high-speed routing and switching, while firewalls are separate devices for security enforcement.

Core Switch Functionality

A core switch serves as the backbone of a network, interconnecting distribution and access layer switches and handling large volumes of traffic with low latency and high reliability. Core switches are optimized for Layer 3 routing, VLAN segmentation, ACLs, and high-speed forwarding, but they are not designed to perform deep packet inspection or enforce firewall policies. They may include features like access control lists (ACLs) and 802.

1X authentication, which provide basic traffic filtering, but these are not equivalent to a full firewall.

Firewall Placement in Network Architecture



Firewalls are typically deployed in front of the core switch or at the aggregation layer to protect the network from external threats and control traffic between security zones. In enterprise networks, the firewall handles security policies, intrusion prevention, and traffic inspection, while the core switch focuses on high-speed packet forwarding and inter-VLAN routing. Some designs may use VLANs or VRFs on the core switch to segment traffic, but the firewall remains the primary device for enforcing security rules.

Summary

While core switches are critical for network performance and scalability, they do not replace firewalls. Organizations should deploy dedicated firewall devices to manage security, with the core switch providing high-speed connectivity and routing between network segments.

AC

LS on the core switch can complement firewall policies but cannot provide the same level of protection.

Article Content

Network Setup for core and firewall

The best way from a security standpoint is to have a physically separate switch connecting the ISP handoff to the firewall, if a switch is needed at all. A switch would only be needed if there

Internet Connection Termination: Core Switch vs Firewall

My colleague argued that internet connections should not be terminated on the core switches or internal access switches but rather directly on the firewall or using dedicated external WAN switches.

Recommendation for a connection between Core Switch and Firewall

Hello, I am asking myself what others recommend for the connection between core switch and Firewall. The setup is the following: Two Catalyst 9300 Core switches in stack. The stack

Allow routing via Internal firewall for Core switch & Internet firewall

We also have Internet firewall which is connected to core switch. As there is no routing is done in the core switch, how user will access the internet via internal firewall.

Routing on firewall or core switches? : r/networking

In my research I'm getting mixed suggestions - Some say that core switches are for routing, when others say that core switches have to be as fast as possible and have minimal tasks dedicated to them.

What Is a Core Switch?

Sitting at the top of the hierarchical model, core switches interconnect distribution layer switches and provide high-speed data transfer across network segments. Unlike access or distribution switches, a

What is the best practices for Users Getaway! Core Switch or Firewall

It also depends on whether you have any single points of failure. If you have a single firewall, but a fully redundant core, it makes more sense for the core to be the client gateway so that

Core Switch vs. Distribution Switch vs. Access Switch

What is a Core Switch? A core switch is the primary switch installed at the backbone of a layered or hierarchical network. These data switches are responsible for routing and data switching at the core

Configuring the Core Switch

Configuring the Core Switch Context In this scenario, IP addresses of the interfaces connecting the core switch to the BRASs and firewalls and OSPF need to be configured on the core

What Is a Core Switch in Networking?

Unlike access switches, which connect directly to end-user devices, the core switch focuses on aggregating and routing traffic between other switches, minimizing latency and

Link between Firewall and Core Switches : [r/networking](#)

If the firewall does not, then you'll need to have a routed interface between the firewall and your core switch. If your layer 3 interfaces are traditional SVIs that live on your switch, and your firewall simply

ISP Hooked Up to Core Switch First... Instead of Straight to ...

They've just pinched some ports on the core switch to use as an intermediary switch between you firewall/router, it's a simple way of splitting your incoming connections to serve two firewalls without

Firewall at Edge vs Core : [r/networking](#)

Obviously I would think having a firewall at the Core switch is ideal, however sometimes this may not be possible, (depending where the ISP connection is). My question is the following, is there a

Network Setup for core and firewall

Internet modem-----core switch-----firewall Scenario: Internet modem - send to core switch the internet core switch - NAT configuration, vlan configuration and DHCP connection ASA

Internal Firewall vs. ACLs on Core Switches : r/networking

ACLs on switches only log hits if you're not sending the logs off to a log collector. They also won't tell you if packets were sent out of order and have no application visibility. I prefer firewalls with the L3

Unifi Dream Router 7 Review: The Homelabber's Dream

The Unifi Dream Router 7 is a full-fledged network appliance offering NVR capabilities, fully managed switching, a built-in firewall, VLANs, and more.

Switch can be attacked if not behind a firewall

If they compromise your core switches, they are inside your network without ever transiting a firewall. On the other hand, if someone compromises an edge switch, they still have to transit a firewall to get

L3 Core to Firewall question

Internet Fortigate Core Access Switches The current network design consists of a firewall (Fortigate 100D), a pair of stacked "network core" L3 switches (Netgear M4300)

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This document is for preliminary research. Verify specifications against current standards, product documentation and project requirements.

