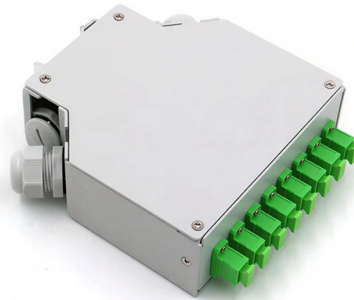


How to configure a core switch



Overview

Learn how to setup a network switch with ease. Switches allow you to send and receive information efficiently and securely. Get setup today!

Key Takeaways

Configuring a core switch involves setting up interfaces, VLANs, routing protocols, management IPs, and security to ensure connectivity and network efficiency.

Initial Setup

Check Hardware and Power On: Verify the switch model, inspect cables, and ensure all indicator lights function correctly. Connect to the switch using a console cable and a terminal emulator like PuTTY with a 9600 baud rate for initial access (Cisco) or the appropriate console settings for your vendor. **Erase Previous Configurations:** For spare or reused switches, delete any existing VLAN or configuration files (e.g., flash:vlan.dat on Cisco) to start fresh.

Set Hostname and Domain Name: Assign a professional hostname and domain name to the switch to identify it in the network and for VTP (Virtual Trunking Protocol) management.

VLAN and Interface Configuration

Create VLA

Ns: Define VLANs for interconnection with BRASs, firewalls, and access switches. Use commands like `vlan [vlan-number]` and `name [vlan-name]` on Cisco switches.



Assign Interfaces to VLA

Ns: Configure access ports for single VLANs and trunk ports for multiple VLANs. Use interface and switchport mode access/trunk commands.

Configure VLAN

F Interfaces: On core switches, create VLANIF interfaces and bind them to VPN instances to isolate public network routes from firewall return routes.

Assign I

P Addresses: Set IP addresses on management VLANs and VLANIF interfaces to enable network management and routing between VLANs.

Routing and Protocols

Configure OSP

F: Enable OSPF on the core switch to manage dynamic routing between the user network and egress network.

Assign OSP

F areas and configure network statements for each interface. Set Default Gateway: Assign a default gateway for the switch to reach external networks and management systems.

Security and Management

Configure Access Control: Set console, Telnet, or SSH passwords and enable AAA authentication for secure access. Disable Unused Ports: Shut down unused interfaces to reduce attack surfaces and improve security. Save Configuration: Use write memory or copy running-config startup-config to save the configuration permanently.

Optional Advanced FeaturesNetFlow or SNMP: Enable monitoring tools to track traffic and performance on the core switch. Spanning Tree Protocol (STP): Configure STP to prevent loops in the network if multiple switches are interconnected. By following these steps, your core switch will be properly configured to handle VLAN segmentation, routing, and secure management, ensuring efficient and reliable network operation.

Article Content

8 Steps to configure your network switch

Learn how to setup a network switch with ease. Switches allow you to send and receive information efficiently and securely. Get setup today!

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The switch is a network device that is used to segment the networks into different subnetworks called subnets or LAN segments. It is responsible for filtering and forwarding the

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Unlike other lower class switch vendors (which are plug-and-play), the Cisco switch needs some initial basic configuration in order to enable management, security and some other important features.

Creating a Base Configuration for a Cisco IOS Switch: A Step-by-Step

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If you issue no switch on the interface, the interface will be configured as Layer3 interface and one IP address is expected. With the second option you keep the interface as Layer2 and use

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Assign a Name to the MC-LAG group (e.g., "Core Group"). Appropriately assign designations for Top Switch and Bottom Switch based on how you prepared your physical connections in step (2b). Click

Core Switch Explained: Key Functions and Benefits

Discover what a Core Switch is, its pivotal role in network architecture, and how it boosts performance and reliability in your data infrastructure.

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