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.

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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 VLANI

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.

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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!

How to Configure a Cisco Switch (step by step)

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

How to Configure a Cisco Switch in 10 Steps

In this step-by-step guide, we walk you through configuring Cisco switches and look at some FAQs. Configuring a Cisco switch is a fundamental task for network administrators, as it lays

Basic Cisco Switch Configuration Example in 10 Steps

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

When you deploy a new switch, it''s important to configure it properly to ensure optimal performance, security, and functionality. This guide will walk you through the essential steps for setting up a base

How to Configure Cisco Switches: A Step-by-step Guide

There are two different interfaces to configure a Cisco switch, via the modern Web Console or through the more versatile Cisco IOS Command-Line Interface. In this step-by-step guide

Guide to Basic Switch Configuration | Auvik

Switch configuration on your own can seem like a daunting task. Use this handy guide to get your network switch up and running with ease.

How to configure a port on our core switch for a server

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

Two-Tier Core

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Prepare switches for deployment in Aruba Central for building a Two-Tier Data Center. The L2 Two-Tier Data Center uses an MC-LAG core for performance and redundancy connected to

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Install PowerShell using WinGet WinGet, the Windows Package Manager, is a command-line tool that enables you to discover, install, upgrade, remove, and configure applications on

How to Configure a Cisco Switch (step by step)

If you''re looking to configure a switch for the first time, this post is for you. Learn step-by-step configuration commands for Cisco IOS Switches.

Cisco Secure Firewall Advanced Threat Protection

Cisco''s Secure Firewall hardware and software options enhance your security to block more threats and swiftly respond to breaches.

Configuring MC-LAG in UniFi Network – Ubiquiti Help Center

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

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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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