

How to connect multiple access switches

Article Overview

You can connect multiple access switches using cascading, stacking, or clustering, depending on your network size, bandwidth needs, and switch compatibility.

Common Methods

1. Cascading: Cascading connects switches in series or in a tree/star topology, expanding the number of available ports. You can daisy-chain switches linearly (A-B-C) or in a ring for redundancy. Linear daisy chains are simple but lack redundancy, while ring topologies allow bi-directional data flow to maintain connectivity if one link fails. Cascading is flexible for mixing different switch models, and each switch maintains its own IP address, but it does not increase overall network bandwidth . 2. Stacking: Stacking combines multiple switches into a single logical unit, often requiring the same model. This method increases bandwidth and simplifies management, as the stack can be controlled as one switch. Stacking is ideal for high-performance networks where port density and throughput are critical, but it has a design-imposed limit on the number of switches that can be stacked . 3. Clustering: Clustering links switches to allow coordinated management while keeping them as separate devices. It provides some benefits of stacking without requiring identical models, but it may not boost bandwidth as effectively as stacking .

Topologies

- Star Topology: All access switches connect to a central core switch. This is scalable and simplifies traffic management.
- Tree/Bus Topology: Switches are connected hierarchically, often used in campus n...

Article Content

Dec 15, 2025

How to connect multiple switches together?

I have 4 "NETGEAR ProSafe GS724T Gigabit Smart Switch" that will need connecting to each other. I am not sure of

Jun 10, 2026

How to Connect Multiple Switches together

The post introduces how to connect multiple switches together by three methods including cascade, stack, and cluster.

Feb 02, 2026

Connecting multiple switches correctly

I'd agree with Matt, a L3 switch is what you need, connect your server to that, and then allow the L3 to do all the

Jan 29, 2026

How do I connect multiple switches?

How Do I Connect Multiple Switches? Connecting multiple switches is a common practice in network setup,

Jul 04, 2026

How Do Multiple Ethernet Switches Connect?

Three common types of connections are currently available: cascading, stacking and clustering. This article aims to

May 21, 2026

FS Community

Hier sollte eine Beschreibung angezeigt werden, diese Seite lässt dies jedoch nicht zu.

Oct 18, 2025

Connect 2 switches together through Access port or Trunk

Hi Everyone, We need to connect 2 switches together and have 2 options for them:-
1. Use access port on both sides

Apr 25, 2026

can we connect two switches, when using access mode ?

Yes, you can connect two switches with access ports, and you just need to say "switchport mode access" and

Nov 24, 2025

Linking of multiple Ethernet switches — cascading, stacking and ...

Thus, multiple Ethernet switches are connected together using different techniques, primarily switch cascading, switch

Apr 25, 2026

How Do Multiple Ethernet Switches Connect?

Connecting Multiple Ethernet Switches with Clustering Clustering is the management of multiple interconnected

Dec 09, 2025

How To Connect Multiple Switches Together In A Same Network

Connecting multiple switches together in a same network can seem daunting at first, but it doesn't have to be. With

Apr 05, 2026

Connecting Core & Access switches

Hey, I'm currently planning on setting up a new network with 2x HP 5500 EI as Core layer, and 2x HP 2530 as Access

Feb 02, 2026

How to Connect Multiple Cisco switches together (9 Cisco Switches)

Can some one explain to me how to do the cabling below:one guy did the topology for me but since havent from him again and

Aug 24, 2025

Example: Connecting an EX Series Access Switch to a Distribution Switch ...

EX Series. In a large office that is spread across several floors or buildings, or in a data center, you commonly

Oct 30, 2025

How to connect multiple switches together

Start with your largest Gigabit switch and connect this to the ISP router as a main switch. Connect servers etc to it,

Aug 02, 2025

Connect 2 switches together through Access port or Trunk

Configuring and operating an access port is more simple than a trunk port. So I would suggest that the Best Practice

Jun 04, 2026

On connecting multiple access switches together. What is too much?

I know it's fine to connect an access L2 switch to another access L2 switch to reach more devices, but really what's too much? My

Mar 10, 2026

Best way to connect multiple switches together

Maybe the switches were just in awe of your amazing topology? Seriously though, if you can take the time, do it again, but only

Jun 16, 2026

How to connect multiple switches together

Dear Folks, I hope you guys doing fine on your side, i'm really hustling building up my network from scratch, i connect

Oct 17, 2025

How to Connect Multiple Ethernet Switches

This article will explore three common connection methods: switch cascading, switch stacking, and switch clustering,

Jan 20, 2026

How to Connect Multiple Ethernet Switches Using Fiber

Posted on June 24, 2024 by FC — Leave a comment How to Connect Multiple Ethernet Switches Using Fiber Optic Cables? If you

Nov 22, 2025

What is the best way to connect multiple switches?

The place I work currently has 7 HP switches in an IRF stack. It is a pretty sweet setup. I love being able to control all 7

Aug 14, 2025

Best Way to Connect Multiple Switches

How to connect multiple switches in a network with clear steps and tips for effective setup and configuration.

Feb 04, 2026

What is an access switch and how to select access switches?

They connect directly to user devices and represent the part of the network that interacts most frequently with

May 25, 2026

connecting multiple switches together

THAT is the port you want to have connected switch-to-switch. If both switches support trunking (bonding multiple

Jun 12, 2026

How to Connect Multiple Ethernet Switches

Three methods for connectting multiple Ethernet switches including stacking, cascading, clusterinig are introduced to

Feb 28, 2026

How to Connect Two Switches Together: A Comprehensive Guide

Are you looking to expand your network infrastructure and connect multiple switches together? Connecting switches

Feb 21, 2026

Expanding Router Ports and Connecting Switches Together

In this tutorial we look at how to expand router ports and connect witches together.

Contact Us

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