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Can cheap core switches be used



Overview

Need a core switch cheap. GO!!! You might have your own standard of cheap and hence the question, what's your budget?

If you are interested on What is Core.

Key Takeaways

A cheap core switch can be used, but it may compromise performance, redundancy, and scalability, so careful evaluation of network requirements is essential.Core Switch Role and Requirements

A core switch is the backbone of a network, responsible for aggregating traffic from access and distribution layers, providing high-speed forwarding, and ensuring low-latency, reliable data transport across the network . Core switches typically handle large volumes of traffic, support Layer 3 routing, and often include features like link aggregation, redundancy, and fault tolerance . Using a switch that cannot meet these demands can create bottlenecks, increase latency, and reduce overall network stability.

Considerations for Using a Cheap Core Switch
• Traffic Volume and Throughput: Ensure the switch can handle the total traffic from all connected devices. Check the backplane bandwidth and forwarding rate to avoid congestion .

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• Redundancy and Reliability: Core switches often require dual power supplies, redundant supervisors, or chassis-based designs to maintain uptime. Cheap switches may lack these features, increasing the risk of downtime .

• Scalability: A low-cost switch may have limited ports or fixed configurations, making future expansion difficult. Chassis-based or modular switches offer more flexibility but are more expensive .

• Network Features: Core switches often need advanced Layer 3 capabilities, routing protocols, and traffic management features. Budget switches may not support all required protocols or high-performance routing .
Practical Advice
• If your network is small, with moderate traffic and minimal critical services, a lower-cost switch may suffice temporarily, but it should meet minimum performance standards.

• For medium to large networks, or environments with high traffic (e.g., multiple call centers, thin clients, file servers), investing in a properly rated core switch is recommended to avoid bottlenecks and downtime .

• Consider refurbished or older enterprise-grade switches (e.g., Cisco 3750 or HP ProCurve series) as a cost-effective alternative that still provides reliability and Layer 3 features .
Conclusion

While a cheap core switch can be used, it is crucial to evaluate traffic demands, redundancy needs, and future growth. Using an underpowered or non-redundant switch at the core can lead to network instability and performance issues. A balance between cost and capability is essential to ensure the network remains reliable and scalable .

Article Content

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Core switches : r/sysadmin

You can get one for sub $1,000 that is far superior in every way to anything in that price range. Also switches are not like hard drives

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Core, Aggregation, or Access Switches? Choose the

Selecting between core, aggregation, and access switches is not only technical — it''s

How to Choose a Core Layer Switch?

Of course, if you have sufficient budget, you can choose a core switch with rich port types or a large number of ports

Don''t Overpay for a Network Switch, a Cheap One Is

A common concern with cheap switches is reliability, but in reality, network switches are

Make My Job Easier; Core Switch Replacement : sysadmin

Our core switches are EOL and have been for a long time. I need 5 core switches for $15,000 for a mid-size organization with

advice choose right core switch

Hi, i need an advice to choose a core switch for my network. Now i have a flat network with some 3750E stacked and

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Core Switches: The Pillar of Network Infrastructure

High-end core switches with advanced features can be pricey, but they offer better performance and reliability. It''s

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Tom''s Hardware helps you buy the best hardware and build the best PC to play, create and

Advice on core switch setup : r/sysadmin

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For smaller deployments, the goto Cisco configuration is a pair of 4500-X switches in a VSS configuration with 2960-X switches for

Replacing core switch question? : r/meraki

Replacing core switch question? We are replacing our existing catalyst 4510R switch with 6 meraki ms250-48p switches. Currently

Difference between core switch and ordinary switch and the

In modern computer networks, core switches and ordinary switches are two key network devices, which have

Core Switch Recommendation : r/networking

The current high-density access switch is the Catalyst 9400. Standard access switch would be Catalyst 9300. The paradigm has

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Replacement of Core Switches We have two new Cisco 3850''s that are going to be replacing the core of our network. We currently

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Which switch can I use as a core switch

can some help me I have these switches. which one I should use as a core switch or recommend another better model.

Core Switches vs Ordinary Switches: Key Differences for Data Center ...

Discover the key differences between core switches and ordinary switches. Learn how core switches enhance network reliability,

Core Switches and Normal Switches: A Practical

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In modern network infrastructure, switches play a pivotal role in connecting devices and

Should I add a layer 3 core switch or just use the router I have

You can then connect all of your distribution switches to your core switches, and your existing Catalyst 2921 to them. Again, unless

Is there any significant difference between a core switch, a ...

You connect your devices to access switches. If there are multiple access switches, you need to connect them together to a core

Core Switch Refresh Recommendation

With 3 switches they would all be connected in a ring and then let spanning tree block one link. You can also look at

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Soft-close white toilet seat by Jacob Delafon Kohler, designed for durability and comfort.

Need to choose core switch

Hi, I have a network which consists of a data center of 20 servers connected to a switch. Then there is 1000 LAN users

Differences Between the Core Switch and Normal Switch | FiberMall

The so-called core switch is for the network architecture. If it is a small local area network with several computers, a

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Network Core Switch Recommendation : r/networking

Network Core Switch Recommendation I''m looking for recommendation regarding core switches. Our campus is due for a network

Core Switches: The Pillar of Network Infrastructure

Get a closer look at core switches: the nerve centers of network infrastructure that enhance performance and facilitate

Understanding the Core Switch: Key Differences and Uses

Explore the core switch''s role as the backbone of your network. Discover key differences, uses, and insights into layer

Secondhand "core" switches

Current core is a 24 port edge switch with only basic layer 3 capabilities (procurve 2824). Thinking of buying two hp 6200yl switches

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