

How to connect switches and gateways



Article Overview

To connect switches and gateways, link the switch to the gateway (router or smart hub) using Ethernet cables, then connect your devices to the switch to expand network access and ensure efficient communication.

Understanding the Devices

- **Switch:** A switch connects multiple devices within a Local Area Network (LAN) and forwards data only to the intended recipient using MAC addresses, reducing collisions and improving network performance . Switches can be managed (allowing configuration, monitoring, VLANs) or unmanaged (plug-and-play with no configuration), .
- **Gateway:** A gateway, such as a router or smart hub, connects your LAN to other networks, including the internet. It assigns IP addresses and manages traffic between devices and external networks .

Step-by-Step Connection

- **Plan Your Network:** Determine how many devices you need to connect, the number of LAN ports required, and whether you need managed features like VLANs or PoE .
- **Connect Switch to Gateway:** Use an Ethernet cable to connect a LAN port on your gateway to any port on the switch. This allows the switch to extend the network and provide additional ports for devices .
- **Connect Devices to Switch:** Plug your computers, printers, or other network devices into the switch using Ethernet cables. Ensure the cables are appropriate (Cat5e or Cat6) for your network speed requirements .
- **Power On Devices:** Turn on the gateway and switch. Check indicator lights to confi...

Article Content

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Router vs Switch vs Hub vs Modem vs Access Point vs Gateway

Switches vs Hubs A hub is an obsolete device that you would never want to buy these days. It looks just like a switch,

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How to Use a Network Switch: Beginner's Easy Step-by

Learn how to use and set up network switch easily! A practical, beginner-friendly guide for

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Connecting Switches Together

I'm going to show you really quickly the process for connecting switches together and how

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Routing Between VLANs & Layer 3 Switches

Learn what a Router Sub-interface and a L3 Switch is, as well as how to configure both of them on Cisco devices to enable Routing

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How To Connect Two Switches Together In a Network

Switches are typically used in local area networks (LANs) and they allow multiple devices to communicate and share

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Default gateway of host connected to two routers via switch

I wanted to make this network fully connected, so I need to assign IP addresses to all interfaces of routers and to all

Jul 05, 2026

How Do You Connect A Network Switch To A Router

Learn how to connect a network switch to a router seamlessly with this comprehensive

Mar 23, 2026

How to Connect Multiple Ethernet Switches

Cascade vs Stack vs Cluster: Learn how to connect multiple Ethernet switches, compare the key differences, and

Apr 06, 2026

Connecting multiple switches correctly

Connecting all 4 switches, main server and main router to a "new main switch". In addition to this, is there a way to do

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Gateway Setup: How to Connect Your Smart Switch to Your Network

A gateway connects your smart devices (like smart switches) to your home network and the internet. The gateway

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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

Aug 22, 2025

Internet Connectivity Mastery: Step-by-Step Switch and Router ...

Mastering switch and router configurations isn't just about following steps—it's about understanding the underlying principles of

Dec 17, 2025

Network Switch Vs Router Vs Gateway,Difference & Similarities?

Just as switches connect multiple devices to form a local network, routers link multiple switches and their respective

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How to Connect a Network Switch to a Router | Set Up Guide

How to Connect a Gigabit Switch to a Router Even if you're unsure what cable to connect a router to a switch, you

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Difference between Switch and Gateway

Communication inside networks is enabled by devices such as switches or gateways. To facilitate data transfer, a

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How to Connect Switches and Routers? Why Is This Setup Critical for ...

Configuring switches and routers for internet connectivity might seem complex, but it's manageable when you break it down step by

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A Complete Guide to Network Gateways: How They Work and Why

Learn what a network gateway is, how it works, and why it's essential for connecting different networks. Understand

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Ethernet Switch Setup: How to Connect Your Switch

In this video, I detail the procedure for setting up an ethernet switch, as well as the

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Network Devices

It is a central connection point for devices in a LAN. It takes an incoming signal on one port and blindly broadcasts it to

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How to configure a gateway on a switch

Properly configuring a gateway on a switch is essential for smooth communication between devices and networks. In

Mar 07, 2026

How to Connect Two Switches Together: A Comprehensive Guide

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

Oct 11, 2025

Switch connected to two different gateways

I want to connect an L3 switch (Tp-Link T1600-28PS)with two different gateways. One is the Comcast voice edge and

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connecting multiple switches together

It's a bit of a vague question, and can depend on a lot of things relating to how you connect them and what's on your

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How To Connect A Network Switch To Another Network Switch

Learn how to connect a network switch to another network switch with this comprehensive guide. Understand the

Feb 12, 2026

How To Use A Network Switch With 2 Routers

Learn how to effectively use a network switch with 2 routers to expand your network and optimize connectivity.

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Connecting Two Network Switches Together

In this video we take a look at the different ways of connect 2 switches together. There

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How to Connect Two Routers (with Pictures)

Get a long enough ethernet cable to connect your two routers. You'll usually need to run an

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Pros & Cons of Using a Gateway vs. Router & Modem

What are the pros and cons of using a gateway vs. router-modem combos that are separate? We'll dive into modems,

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How to Connect a Switch to a Router and Configure Settings

Answer first: connect a router LAN port to a supported switch port with the correct Ethernet cable, then verify link

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Setting Up Multiple Networks on a Single Router & Switch | Dual Gateway ...

Setting Up Multiple Networks on a Single Router & Switch | Dual Gateway Configuration

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Expanding Router Ports and Connecting Switches Together

Switches vs Routers When expanding the ports on the network we use additional switches and not routers. Generally

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What is a network gateway?

A network gateway is a device or node that connects disparate networks by translating communications from one protocol to another.

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Difference between Switch and Gateway

Conclusion The roles of switches and gateways in networking are different. In a single network, the switch will be

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How Do I Connect To A Network Switch

Learn how to connect to a network switch using Ethernet or Wi-Fi. Discover step-by-step

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Step-by-Step Guide: How To Setup A Network Switch And Router

How to Setup a Network Switch To setup a network switch, you need to connect the Ethernet cables, inspect the hardware, and

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How to Configure Router and Switch | Ultimate Guide

What Is a Switch? Switches can be used to connect numerous devices together on the same network. Local area

Sep 10, 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.

May 07, 2026

Gateway Setup: How to Connect Your Smart Switch to Your Network

Take the first step towards a smarter, more connected home with an easy gateway setup for your lotics smart

Contact Us

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