

How to make an aggregation layer switch



Article Overview

Configuring an aggregation layer switch involves creating a Link Aggregation Group (LAG) using protocols like LACP to combine multiple physical links into a single logical interface for higher bandwidth and redundancy.

Step 1: Plan Your Aggregation

- Identify member ports: Choose the physical interfaces on the switch that will participate in the aggregation. Ensure they are of the same speed and duplex settings for optimal performance .
- Determine VLANs: Decide which VLANs will traverse the aggregated link. Aggregation can carry multiple VLANs as a trunk or a single VLAN as an access port .
- Select protocol: Use LACP (Link Aggregation Control Protocol) for dynamic aggregation, which provides automatic failover and prevents misconfigurations. Static aggregation is possible but lacks automatic negotiation .

Step 2: Configure the Aggregated Interface

- Create the LAG: On most switches, this involves defining a logical interface (e.g., ae0 on Juniper or Port-channel 1 on Cisco) and assigning member ports to it .
- Assign VLANs: Configure the aggregated interface as a trunk or access port depending on your network design. For trunking, include all relevant VLANs .
- Set link speed and minimum links: Ensure all member links have the same speed. Optionally, define the minimum number of active links required for the LAG to be operational .

Article Content

Sep 03, 2025

Link Aggregation: What is it, and How Does it Work?

Link aggregation is a way of bundling a bunch of individual (Ethernet) links together so they

Jun 06, 2026

Aggregation Switches

Aggregation switches consolidate data traffic from multiple network access switches into a single high-bandwidth link

Dec 08, 2025

What is Link Aggregation (LAG) in Networking?

Link aggregation is a technique used in networking to bundle multiple physical ports on a network device to operate as a single link.

Oct 20, 2025

Data Center Network Switch Design

This Article Applies to: All Omada switches. Design: In a large network, we will have different types of switches

Nov 16, 2025

Data Center Design: Basic 3 Layers, Core, Aggregation, and Access

Key Features of 3 layers design of Data Center: Data center network is divided into 3 standard three-layer structure.

Dec 28, 2025

Aggregation layer | FortiSwitch 7.6.0 | Fortinet Document Library

This model allows the aggregation switches to easily accommodate thousands of devices passing through this layer while simplifying

Mar 31, 2026

How To Set Up Switch Link Aggregation

In this article, I'm going to describe how to set up Link Aggregation between two managed switches to provide connectivity,

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Core, Aggregation, or Access Switches? Choose the

Knowing the roles of core, aggregation, and access switches in contemporary network

May 09, 2026

Link Aggregation: Static vs Dynamic, LACP, and MLAG

Understand how link aggregation (LACP, MLAG, static vs dynamic) improves bandwidth

Feb 07, 2026

What is an Aggregation Switch? | Features and Practical Benefits

Additionally, the access switch includes user management features like address authentication, user authentication,

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Link Aggregation and Multi-layer switches

Solved: 1. Use Packet Tracer to put up the topology above. Connect the two multi-layer switches (MLS) with a Gigabit

Apr 12, 2026

Everything You Need to Know About Aggregation Switch

An aggregation switch operates at Layer 2 or Layer 3 of the OSI model, depending on the configuration and topology

Jan 05, 2026

Aggregation Switch

An aggregation switch refers to a type of switch used to connect multiple ToR switches to a core switch/router in a cloud data center

Nov 02, 2025

What is Aggregation Layer in Networking | SPOTOclub

Learn about the aggregation layer in networking, its purpose, and how it connects to the distribution layer. Discover

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Link_Aggregation_Config_Guide

1 Link Aggregation Configuration Guide This document describes the Link Aggregation feature supported in

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What Is an Aggregation Switch?

An aggregation switch sits between access layer switches and the core network, acting as an intermediary. It collects

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Aggregation layer | FortiSwitch 7.2.3 | Fortinet Document Library

Aggregation layer The aggregation (sometimes also called distribution) layer is a real crossroad. Its primary goal is to increase

Aug 02, 2025

Datacenter Core and Aggregation Design

Introduction Layered Datacenter Architecture Datacenter Core Layer Datacenter Aggregation Layer Datacenter

Jul 14, 2026

Why You Need a Fiber Aggregation Switch and How it Can ...

Q: How do I make sure my network remains scalable when using a Fiber Aggregation Switch? Q: What are the

Sep 25, 2025

What are Link Aggregation Groups (LAGs) and how do

What are Link Aggregation Groups (LAGs) and how do they work with my managed switch?

Sep 12, 2025

What Is an Aggregation Switch and How to Choose?

Aggregation switches are widely deployed in high-traffic environments, such as enterprise backbones, data centers,

Jun 16, 2026

Configuring Link Aggregation Group (LAG) on a Switch

Article ID:2860 Configuring Link Aggregation Group (LAG) on a Switch Objective Link Aggregation Group (LAG)

Aug 20, 2025

What is Switch Aggregation, Its Role and Selection Advice

This article wraps up "what is switch aggregation" and suggestions for choosing an aggregation switch. By

May 31, 2026

How to Choose Best Aggregation Switch?

QT Aggregation Switch Features MLAG: Multi-Chassis Link Aggregation (MLAG) is a networking technology that

Aug 08, 2025

Link Aggregation and Ethernet Bonding Feature Overview and ...

Link aggregation interfaces have names like "po1" and "sa1" depending on the aggregation method in use. Ethernet bonding is used to

Aug 27, 2025

What Is an Aggregation Switch and How to Choose?

As the physical part of the aggregation layer, aggregation switches typically play a crucial part in the overall network

Jul 29, 2025

Understanding Switch Aggregation: A Comprehensive

This blog post briefly explains the primary function of aggregation switches, particularly

Mar 03, 2026

Data Center Aggregation Layer Design and Configuration with ...

Introduction This chapter covers the design recommendations for a data center design deployment consisting of a Cisco Nexus®

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