

How to purchase an intranet core switch



Article Overview

To purchase an intranet core switch, define your network requirements, select a reputable vendor, evaluate features and scalability, and choose a trusted procurement channel.

Define Your Network Requirements

Before purchasing, clearly outline your network needs:

- Network type: Determine if the switch is for a data center, enterprise, or campus LAN .
- Bandwidth requirements: Decide on speeds such as 1G, 10G, 40G, 100G, or higher depending on traffic volume .
- Features: Consider PoE support, Layer 3 routing, SDN compatibility, AI-driven analytics, and security features .
- Scalability: Ensure the switch can handle future growth in devices and traffic.

Research and Select Vendors

Focus on established vendors with proven reliability and support networks:

- Cisco (Catalyst and Meraki series) offers modular, AI-enabled core switches .
- Juniper Networks, Arista Networks, Dell, HPE, Huawei are also recognized for high-performance core switches .
- Check for preowned or remanufactured options through programs like Cisco Refresh for cost savings

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