

Configure IP addresses when connecting two switches



AI Overview

To connect two switches and enable communication, assign unique IP addresses to each switch (preferably in a management VLAN), configure VLANs, and ensure trunk or access ports are correctly set up.

Step 1: Physical Connection Use an Ethernet cable to connect the switches. For most modern switches, a straight-through cable works; for older unmanaged switches, a crossover cable may be required. Identify the ports on each switch that will be used for the connection, often labeled as uplink or LAN ports.

Step 2: Assign IP Addresses Layer-2 switches only need IP addresses for management purposes. Assign each switch a unique static IP within the same subnet for easy administration. Example: Switch 1: 192.168.1.2, Switch 2: 192.168.1.3, Subnet mask: 255.255.255.0. Place these IPs in a management VLAN to separate administrative traffic from user data. Exclude these IPs from DHCP pools to prevent conflicts with dynamically assigned addresses.

Step 3: Configure VLANs If hosts on different switches need to communicate, ensure they are in the same VLAN or configure inter-VLAN routing via a router or Layer-3 switch. Example configuration for a port on Switch 1:

```
CodeCopyinterface fa0/2switchport mode accessswitchport access vlan 10
```

For the uplink port connecting the switches, configure it as a trunk to carry multiple VLANs:

```
CodeCopyinterface fa0/1switchport mode trunk
```

Step 4: Test Connectivity Ping the IP address of the other switch to verify communication. Ensure that hosts connected to each switch can reach each other if they are in the same VLAN or routed correctly if in different VLANs.

Step 5: Save Configuration Save the configuration on each switch to ensure settings persist after a reboot:

```
CodeCopywrite memory orCodeCopycopy running-config startup-config
```

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Article Content

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Check the network settings on both switches to ensure that they are compatible with each other, such as IP addresses, subnet masks and default gateways. Make sure that the switches

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Configure IP Addresses and Unique Subnets for New Users

In this article, we'll look at how to properly configure two switches together to ensure the best performance and reliability. Configuring two switches together is a straightforward process but it

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