**ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd**

# How to connect network cables to the core switch



## Overview

Learn how to setup a network switch with ease. Switches allow you to send and receive information efficiently and securely.

## Key Takeaways

You can connect a core switch directly to another switch or device using the appropriate network cable, ensuring correct port selection and avoiding loops.Steps to Connect a Core Switch

1. Identify the Port Type: Core switches often have multiple port types, including 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet ports and SFP/SFP+ ports for fiber connections. Ensure you use the correct port for the cable type you have (copper or fiber) and the speed you require . 2. Choose the Cable:

• For copper connections, use Cat 6 or Cat 7 Ethernet cables for gigabit speeds.

• For fiber connections, use the correct SFP transceivers and fiber type (single-mode or multi-mode) compatible with both switches . 3. Connect the Cable:

• Plug the cable into the selected port on the core switch.

• Connect the other end to the corresponding port on the distribution or access switch.

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• Ensure the connection is secure and the link lights indicate activity. 4. Avoid Network Loops: Directly connecting switches can create loops if multiple connections exist without proper configuration. Enable Spanning Tree Protocol (STP) on the switches to prevent broadcast storms and loops . 5. Verify Connectivity:

• Check the link lights on both switches.

• Use commands like show interface status (Cisco) to confirm the port is up and operational.

• Test network traffic to ensure proper routing and switching.
Topology Considerations
• Star Topology: The core switch connects directly to each distribution switch. This is common for small to medium networks and simplifies troubleshooting .

• Redundancy: For larger networks, consider dual connections or peer links to prevent downtime if a single link fails .

• Port Configuration: Assign VLANs and configure trunking if multiple VLANs are carried over the same link.
Best Practices
• Use consistent cabling standards and label all connections.

• Avoid connecting unmanaged switches directly to the core without proper VLAN and STP configuration.

• For fiber, ensure transceivers match the fiber type and distance requirements.

• Document the network topology to prevent misconfigurations and loops . By following these steps, you can safely connect a core switch directly to other network devices while maintaining network stability and performance.

## Article Content

Connecting core switches

In regards to the core switches, I have 2 X 3750v2 switches acting as core 1 and core 2. In the course Jeremy

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Depending on the types of interface ports on the switch, use interface cables with QSFP28, QSFP+, SFP+, SFP transceivers, or RJ

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Cisco Core vs Access Switches: Key Differences

As a result, a handful of ports is usually enough for a core switch. Meanwhile, access switches often need

Core Switch & Access Switch Connections

The Catalyst switches allow me to have 4x1G or 2x10G Uplinks - Im going to go for 10G uplinks because I think we will

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local area network

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Hi, A good design connect all access switches (2960S) to the Core/Distribution switch (6500) if the distance between

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