

Layer 2 and Layer 3 Core Switches



Overview

A Layer 2 switch forwards traffic within the same VLAN using MAC addresses, while a Layer 3 switch adds IP routing and can move traffic between VLANs and subnets. A Layer-3 switch works at the third layer of the OSI model and it has features of both a switch and a router. Sign in with your Cisco SSO or create a free account to start training. Traditional switching operates at layer 2 of the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model, where packets are sent. This guide explains the differences between Layer 2 (L2) and Layer 3 (L3) switches, offers actionable deployment advice, and provides a framework for selecting the right hardware for your network. · Core Task: Establishing direct interconnections between devices within a local area network to ensure efficient communication within the same network segment.

Article Content

What is a network switch? | Switch vs. router

A network switch forwards data between devices, unlike routers, which forward data between networks. Learn about Ethernet switches, managed switches, and more.

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