

Small businesses should choose a core switch when building a network



Overview

For most small businesses a managed Gigabit switch with PoE on some ports is the best choice. If you need higher throughput for servers or virtualization, choose a 10G-capable distribution switch and keep cheaper Gigabit switches at the access layer. HPE and Netgear are strong picks. As digital demands rise, small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) are facing increasing pressure to build networks that can scale with business growth—without compromising reliability or inflating IT costs. Though they look similar, the two devices perform different functions within a network. Select the appropriate switch type: use Layer 2 for basic LAN connectivity and Layer 3 for advanced routing, segmentation, and multi-VLAN. Knowing the roles of core, aggregation, and access switches in contemporary network topology becomes essential to create effective and scalable networks. This article looks at what each such tool does, compares how they differ from each other, and offers suggestions as to what sort of network each. A network switch directs traffic between devices so that connections stay fast and stable. The right choice prevents bottlenecks and makes upgrades easier.



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