

Access Router and Access Switch



Overview

Router vs Switch vs Access Point: What Each Box Actually Does Routers move traffic between networks, switches connect wired devices on a network, and access.

Key Takeaways

To connect an access switch to a router, use an Ethernet cable from a LAN port on the router to any port on the switch, then power on both devices and verify connectivity. Purpose of Connecting a Switch to a Router

A router connects your local network to the internet and manages IP addresses, while a switch expands the number of available Ethernet ports, allowing multiple devices to communicate locally and access the internet simultaneously. This setup is especially useful when your router has limited LAN ports or when you want to maintain high-speed wired connections for multiple devices.

Step-by-Step Connection Guide

- **Gather Equipment:** Ensure you have the router, access switch, and Ethernet cables ready.
- **Power Off Devices:** Turn off both the router and switch to prevent electrical issues during setup.
- **Identify Ports:** Locate the LAN ports on the router and the ports on the switch. Most switches allow any port to connect to the router.
- **Connect Ethernet Cable:** Plug one end of the Ethernet cable into a LAN port on the router and the other end into any port on the switch.

- **Power On Devices:** Turn on the router first, then the switch. Wait for the devices to fully boot and initialize .

- **Verify Connection:** Check the LED indicators on both devices to confirm a successful link. You can also connect a device to the switch and test internet access .

Configuration Tips

- **Router Settings:** Access the router's web interface using its IP address (commonly 192.168.0.1 or 192.168.1.1) to ensure DHCP is enabled, which automatically assigns IP addresses to devices connected through the switch .

- **Switch Type:** For basic home or office setups, an unmanaged switch works without additional configuration. Managed switches may require console access for advanced features .

- **Multiple Switches:** You can daisy-chain additional switches by connecting one switch to another, but ensure each ultimately connects back to the router for proper network access .

Best Practices

- **Use LAN connections** instead of Wi-Fi for devices that require maximum speed and low latency, such as gaming consoles or workstations .

- **Choose a switch** with sufficient ports and speed (10 Mbps to 1 Gbps or higher) based on your network needs .

- **Keep firmware updated** on both the router and managed switches to maintain security and performance . By following these steps, your access switch will effectively expand your network, allowing multiple devices to communicate locally and access the internet efficiently.

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The Access Switches connect end-user devices (computers, phones, printers) within each VLAN. The Edge Router

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How Is a Router Different From a Switch?

Routers and switches are two network components that help connect computers locally and remotely. Routers and

Understanding Routers, Switches, and Network Hardware

A modem connects your home network to the Internet, and a router ensures the traffic from the Internet reaches the

Networking Basics: What You Need To Know

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Complete these steps Use a PC or similar device to find your router's IP address (often listed as Default Gateway). If you do not have

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