How to connect the core switch ports



Overview

In regards to the core switches, I have 2 X 3750v2 switches acting as core 1 and core 2. In the course Jeremy connects these up using sfp modules and a fibre cable.

Key Takeaways

Core switches are typically connected using high-speed uplink ports (SFP/fiber or copper) configured as trunk links to ensure redundancy and VLAN propagation.

Physical Connections

Uplink Ports: Core switches usually have dedicated uplink ports such as SFP/SFP+ or QSFP+ for high-speed interconnections. You can use fiber optic cables with SFP modules or copper RJ45 cables depending on the switch capabilities and distance between switches. Redundancy: Connect at least two links between core switches to provide failover.

This ensures that if one link fails, traffic can still flow through the other link. Console Access: For initial configuration, connect a PC to the switch using a console cable (RS232-RJ45 or USB-RS232 adapter) to access the management interface via terminal software like PuTTY or SecureCRT.

Logical Configuration

Trunk Ports: Configure the inter-switch ports as trunk ports to carry multiple VLANs. Most switches support Dynamic Trunking Protocol (DTP), which can auto-negotiate trunking between connected ports.

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VLA

N Assignment: Assign VLANs to access ports for end devices and ensure trunk ports carry all necessary VLANs between core switches. Link Aggregation (Optional): For higher bandwidth and redundancy, consider link aggregation (LACP) to combine multiple physical links into a single logical link. Verification: After connecting, verify the configuration using commands like show vlan brief, show interfaces trunk, or show spanning-tree to ensure proper VLAN propagation and loop prevention.

Best Practices

Use high-speed ports for core connections to handle aggregated traffic. Maintain redundant paths to prevent single points of failure. Keep consistent VLAN and trunk configurations across core switches.

Document port assignments and cable types for maintenance and troubleshooting. By following these steps, your core switches will be physically connected, logically configured for VLANs, and ready for network traffic with redundancy and management access in place.

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 connects these up using sfp modules and a fibre cable.

Understanding Core Switch: What It Is and How to Choose the

Evaluate the required port types, speeds, and quantities based on your existing aggregation layer switch. If budget permits, opt for a core switch with diverse port types and a higher...

Connecting Core to Access switches

I would recommend at least 2 copper runs per switch, which you can then put in a port channel, so that you have 2 Gbps of uplink for all of your edge switches. If you are planning on just

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Make sure the core switch is the root bridge, and enable portfast and BPDU guard on all access interfaces. Do your routing on the core switch, with an L3 transit to the firewall.

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This document outlines the configuration steps for a core switch in a server room, including connecting via serial cable, assigning hostnames, creating user accounts with specific password requirements,

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