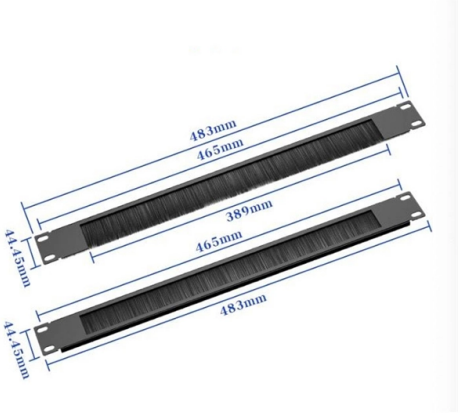
Connect two network cables to the switch



Overview

This article breaks down the process into manageable steps, exploring the benefits and potential pitfalls along the way.

Key Takeaways

You can connect two network cables to a switch simultaneously using Link Aggregation (LAG) or stacking, but the method depends on whether your switches are managed or unmanaged.Link Aggregation (LAG)

Link Aggregation allows multiple physical connections between switches to act as a single logical link, increasing bandwidth and providing redundancy. To use LAG:

• Both switches must support link aggregation (also called port trunking, NIC teaming, or LACP) and be managed switches .

• Configure the LAG on both switches through their management interface, often under a "trunking" or "LAG" menu .

• Once configured, the two cables will function as a single high-speed connection, preventing loops and network issues. Important: Connecting multiple cables between unmanaged switches without LAG will create a switch loop, which can render the network unusable .
Stacking

Stacking is another method where compatible switches are connected via dedicated stacking ports:

• Requires switches that support stacking functionality .

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• Uses specialized stacking cables to combine multiple switches into a single logical unit.

• Provides increased bandwidth and simplifies management, as all stacked switches can be managed as one device .
Cascading

Cascading connects switches using standard Ethernet ports:

• Can involve multiple cables for redundancy, but each switch remains independently managed .

• Useful for expanding port availability, but does not automatically increase bandwidth unless LAG is configured .

• Common topologies include daisy chain or star, depending on network design .
Key Considerations
• Managed vs Unmanaged: Only managed switches support LAG or stacking. Unmanaged switches cannot safely use multiple cables simultaneously without causing loops .

• Compatibility: Stacking usually requires switches of the same model or manufacturer .

• Network Design: Choose the method based on your goals—LAG for bandwidth and redundancy, stacking for unified management, cascading for simple port expansion .
By using LAG or stacking, you can safely connect two or more cables between switches, improving performance and reliability without risking network loops.

Article Content

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Connecting Two Network Switches Together

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How to Connect Two Computers Together with an Ethernet Cable

This wikiHow teaches you how to connect two computers to one another by using an

connecting multiple switches together

What happens to a network if you connect 2 netgear switches together?

How do i connect two ethernet cables?

To connect two Ethernet cables, you can use an Ethernet coupler or an Ethernet switch. An Ethernet

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Learn how to effectively use a network switch with 2 routers to expand your network and optimize connectivity.

Solved: how to connect two switches

I have to switches one in L3 an the other in L2. Several vlans on the network. Should i use a trunk connection between

Multi-computer connection LAN via Ethernet

To connect an end device (the computer) to a switch you use a normal ethernet cable. To connect two similar device (PC direct to

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Connecting two switches

And according to this website: Gigabit ethernet over copper with a crossover cable (1000baseT), you may get connectivity issues, if

Two switches, double connection, no LACP: how does it work?

We have a network with an HP 1910-24 and a V1410-16 (unmanaged). The two are connected via two network

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How can I make a Windows computer use Ethernet to connect to one ...

Now I want to make my computer connect to both networks at the same time, and it should connect to one via

What type of cables to use between hubs, switches, routers and ...

In general when you connect two similar devices ie, switch to switch, router to router, workstation to workstation, you

How To Connect 2 Switches Together

It is possible to connect two switches together through a variety of methods, such as Ethernet cables, wireless

How to link two Network Switch with fiber cables

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We can use either the cat6 cable or fiber optical cable to link two network switch. One of

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Can I run two ethernet cables between two switches, for ...

Hi all, I''m running an ethernet cable between two rooms. One of them has my modem and a wifi access point (which can act as a

How to properly connect 2 switches?

LAGs or not, you could simply connect a Cat5e or Cat6 cable between the 2 switches unless you need to segregate

networking

Basically I would like to know if the transfer speeds would be any faster between 2 computers if an additional Ethernet cable was

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