Core Switches and Cascaded Switches

Article Overview

Core switches form the backbone of a network, while cascaded switches extend connectivity by linking multiple switches together.

Core Switches

A core switch is a high-capacity switch located at the backbone of a hierarchical network, responsible for routing and switching large volumes of data between distribution and access layers . Core switches are critical for network performance because they handle the primary data traffic and ensure efficient communication across the network. Key characteristics include:

• High forwarding rate to manage large data volumes .
• Redundancy and reliability to prevent network downtime.
• Typically deployed in the core layer of enterprise networks.
• Often multiple core switches are used to prevent congestion and maintain high availability .

Cascaded Switches

Cascading is a method of connecting multiple switches using standard Ethernet ports to extend network connectivity . Each switch in a cascade operates independently, with its own configuration. Common topologies include:

• Daisy-chain (linear): Switches connected in series; simple but lacks redundancy.
• Star or tree: Central switch connects to multiple switches; provides better fault tol...

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Network Switches

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Switch Network Structure: Cascading, Stacking, Aggregation And

Switches are essential devices in computer networks, used for forwarding data between local area networks (LAN) and

Contact Us

For more information, pricing, or custom solutions, please contact us:

Website: https://khanimamboguesthouse.co.za
Email: sales@khanimamboguesthouse.co.za
Phone: +27 64 852 1973
Address: Unit 7, Greenway Business Park, 8 Innovation Drive, Centurion, 0157, South Africa

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