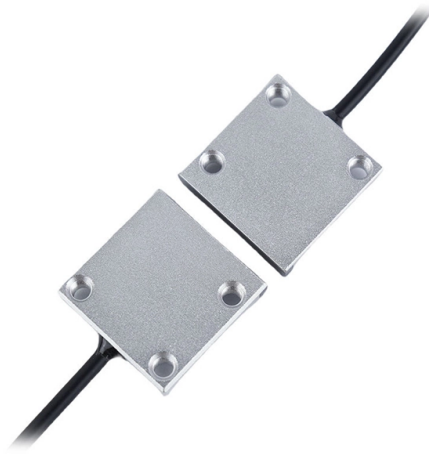


PoE Switch Placement



Article Overview

Place your PoE switch centrally between powered devices and the network source, considering cable length, power budget, and accessibility for maintenance.

Key Considerations for Placement

Central Location: Position the PoE switch as close as possible to the middle of your network layout to minimize cable lengths to all connected devices. This ensures that Ethernet cables do not exceed the standard 100-meter (328 feet) limit, which can cause signal degradation and power loss . **Proximity to Devices:** For devices like IP cameras, wireless access points, or VoIP phones, the switch should be within reach of the devices' locations. If devices are spread out, consider using PoE extenders to maintain signal quality over longer distances . **Power Budget:** Ensure the switch can supply sufficient power to all connected devices. Calculate the total wattage required and select a switch that exceeds this combined demand to avoid underpowering devices . **Accessibility:** Place the switch in a location that allows easy access for monitoring, maintenance, and potential power cycling of devices. Avoid hidden or hard-to-reach areas unless remote management is available . **Network Source Connection:** The switch should be near your router or main network source to simplify cabling and reduce latency. If the switch is far from the router, ensure proper cabling and consider using fiber or uplink ports for longer distances . **Mounting Options:** Depending on the environment, PoE switches can be wall-mounted, rack-mounted, or pole-mounted. Use the manufacturer's mounting brackets and ensure the switch is securely fixed. For outdoor or specialized setups, consider weatherproof enclosures and proper cable management . **Cable Management:** Plan cable routing carefully to avoid excess slack or tangled cables. Extra cable can be coiled neatly at the ends, b...

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