

# How to configure a dual-channel core switch



## AI Overview

Configure dual-channel core switches using VSX/MC-LAG with link aggregation for redundancy and high availability.

**Initial Setup**

**Verify Hardware and Connectivity:** Ensure both core switches are powered on, physically connected, and all ports and cables are functional. Check indicator lights and confirm the switches are reachable via console or SSH (PuTTY is commonly used).

**Access the CLI or Management Interface:** Connect via console, SSH, or a centralized management tool (e.g., Aruba Central for VSX or Cisco CLI). Log in with administrative credentials.

**Set Hostname and Management IP:** Assign a hostname, domain name, and management IP address for each switch. This allows remote management and monitoring.

**Configure VLANs**

**Create VLANs:** Define VLANs for internal traffic, routing, and external connectivity. Use the same VLAN IDs on both switches to maintain consistency.

**Assign Ports:** Configure access ports for end devices and trunk ports for inter-switch or uplink connections. Trunk ports carry multiple VLANs using 802.1Q tagging.

**Dual-Channel / Link Aggregation Setup**

**Create a Link Aggregation Group (LAG):** Combine multiple physical interfaces into a single logical link to increase bandwidth and provide redundancy. This is essential for dual-channel operation.

**Assign LAG to Inter-Switch Link (ISL):** For VSX or MC-LAG, designate the LAG as the inter-switch link. This ensures Layer 2 aggregation and allows traffic to failover if one switch loses connectivity.

**Configure LACP (if using Cisco):** Enable LACP on the port channel to allow dynamic negotiation and load balancing across the aggregated links.

**VSX Keepalives / OOB Management:** Use an out-of-band management interface for VSX keepalives to monitor switch health and maintain redundancy without consuming data-plane ports.

**Routing and Redundancy**

**Configure Routed VLANs:** Assign IP addresses to the routed VLAN interfaces on both switches to ensure redundancy and high availability.

## Article Content

How to configure redundant core switch in collapsed core?

With a routed access design, you'd configure a default gateway per access switch then route the connections to both cores. The cores will only route to other access switches and shouldn't

Configuring Cisco Port Channels: Step-by-Step Tutorial

Setting up port channels on Cisco switches is an essential skill for network engineers to optimize the performance and reliability of a network. This step-by-step tutorial will guide you through

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Recommendations: Dual Core Switch for redundancy.

Make sure you designate the primary root bridge and the secondary on your core switches and configure the appropriate port roles and security controls in place from rouge stp

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how to configure cisco core switch HSRP active active

In this video we will learn how to configure cisco core switch active active using HSRP step by step.

Cisco EtherChannel Configuration on C9300 Series

EtherChannel, also called Link Aggregation or Port-Channel, allows multiple Ethernet links to operate as a single logical interface. This setup

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Configuring Port Channels

Note Cisco Nexus 5500 Series NX-OS Interfaces Configuration Guide, Release 7.x 2 OL-30891-01 Configuring Port Channels Guidelines and Limitations for Port Channel Configuration

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8 Steps to configure your network switch

Just like riding a bicycle, nobody's born knowing how to setup a network switch. And this process is a little more advanced than, say, setting up your home Internet or even a plug-and-play type switch.

Two-Tier Core

Configure Two-Tier core switches as a VSX pair for Layer 2 aggregation of the data center access switches, IP data center services, and routing to the main campus.

PA-Aggregate-Group-Configuration-Dual-Uplink-Core-Switch

This single core switch is now getting replaced by 2 Huawei core switches, both in active-active mode. We have tested the 1 up-link scenario to firewall and is working as expected.

### How to Configure a Cisco Switch in 10 Steps

In this step-by-step guide, we walk you through configuring Cisco switches and look at some FAQs. Configuring a Cisco switch is a fundamental task for network administrators, as it lays

### How to Configure a Cisco Switch (step by step)

Looking to configure a Cisco switch for the first time? If the answer is YES, you're in the right place. In this post, I'm going to show you how to configure a Cisco switch step-by-step.

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