

Does the AP need to be connected to the core switch



Overview

A Wireless Access Point (WAP) allows several devices to connect via WiFi to a single network. The wired equivalent is a switch. But unlike a switch, a WAP does not need to be wired to the router. Access Points connect via wired Ethernet to a switch, or a switch port on a router . Can you plug an access point into your core switch?

Technically yes. but should you?

Most networks are designed using 2 or 3 layers. Uplink ports support the APs management VLAN, carry AP management traffic, establish tunnels to Gateways and forward bridged client traffic. Downlink Ports – Are used to connect wired client devices to the APs or APs operating as. For most deployments, we recommend you install switches that support PoE+ (802.



Article Content

Jul 27, 2026

can I connect an AP to a switch (connecting wireless network to a

I have some PCs networked through an access point and some laptops networked by switch and want to make both of

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Routers vs. Switches vs. Access Points

Switches - connect devices within a single network, transfer incoming and outgoing internet traffic between the

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Access Routers and Core Routers

Hi, The design for this would go like this : [WAN router]--> [Core Switches]--> [6 Access switch connected back to

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Functionality differences between an Wireless Access Point and a Switch ...

I have a WAP connected to a switch via a twisted pair cable. Aside from the communication medium to other nodes

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Solved: Access controller Topology question.

No, the AP is connected to an Access interface should be the same VLAN as your WLC management interface or AP

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How to plug an AP into your core switch | Alexis Bertholf ...

Can you plug an access point into your core switch? Technically yes ... but should you? Most networks are designed using 2 or 3

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Proper way to connect access point & switch to router?

You have to see the switch simply as extra ports for the router that's it, doesn't matter if you connect Router->Switch

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Core Switch & Access Switch Connections

I want to get 2x Cisco Catalyst WS-C3750X-24T-S Switches (and stack them). ESX servers, other servers and routers

Aug 23, 2025

Does an Access Point Need to Be Wired to the Router?

A Wireless Access Point (WAP) allows several devices to connect via WiFi to a single network. The wired equivalent

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ISP Hooked Up to Core Switch First... Instead of Straight to The ...

Having a compromised device physically connected to your core switch is no where near the same as having a compromised device

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WiFi 101 - Access Points, Wireless Routers, and Switching

Our resident IT expert Ross Thomas stops by to discuss routers, access points and the components of a secure WiFi

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Is a router necessary between a modem and a switch?

A switch is used to provide additional ports, expanding the capability of the router. A switch will not provide routing

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Core Switch Explained: Key Functions and Benefits

Core switches are crucial in effective network design. They stand at the network's heart, speeding up data transfer

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Daisy chaining APs or connect them into the central router?

Though it does limit you a bit with regards to where you can place the APs; some additional Ethernet switches (i.e.

Dec 14, 2025

do i actually need a "core" switch? : r/networking

Well, you need something centralized to do the layer 3 for your network. HSRP across 8 separate stacks would be awfully

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Why does a core switch need to be behind a router? : r/ccna

I noticed in most topologies there is a L3 switch at the distribution layer and the core layer. why would it need to run to a router after if

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Can you plug an access point into your core switch ...

Here you still have your access layer and then your core and distribution are combined into a single layer. But even in this case

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What the difference when APs are connected to a

02-23-2012 07:29 PM what is the major difference when we have APs connected to the Access port of the

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How does an Wireless Access Point works

Hi all, I have been googling, but mostly they talk about how to setup Access point but did not mention about how it

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Is there any significant difference between a core switch, a ...

You connect your devices to access switches. If there are multiple access switches, you need to connect them together to a core

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Access, Distribution, and Core Layers Explained

The following image shows how the core switches connect the distribution switches. Unlike the access and

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APs and Switches: One switch or more

My company has a number of large sites with numerous wiring cabinets and, often multiple switches in a stack

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power over ethernet

You can run the AP's patch cable through a switch to add ports to the network. However, (usually) PoE doesn't pass the switch, so

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Switch Port

If you are dealing with autonomous IOS, then the switch port connected to the WAP has to be a dot1Q trunk. IF it's

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Access point port usage | TechDocs

An active / active uplink deployment using LACP requires each AP to be connected to a common access layer switch.

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Wired Network Best Practices

You must correctly design the switching infrastructure to take full advantage of the increased throughput capacity of 802.11ac APs.

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Port setups for access points

Perhaps the simplest way to think of an AP as just another downstream switch and its wireless clients as switch

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Wireless Controller placement

The most common design is to connect the wireless controller to the Core layer of the organization's data center or regional hub, as

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Home networking with an access point and switch?

I am currently wanting to update my home networking system. I want something like this diagram. ISP data cable -->

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Best practices when configuring an Access switch stack to Core

Only a few access switches connect to the Core stack to communicate with servers that connect to the core. It's setup differently than

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Does a switch always need to be connected to a router?

First, does a switch always need to be connected to a router? If so, say I buy a 5Gb switch, I connect my 5Gb enabled NAS and 5Gb

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Connecting an access point to a switch

Hi, I have 2 netgear unmanaged switches and a netgear wifi repeater/access point. you can select the mode of the

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