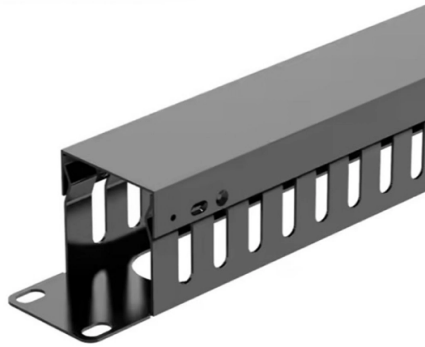


Connect 2 fiber optic switches



Overview

Here in the picture, Red links are fiber optic cables; and green is the fiber optic patch cord intended to connect with.

Key Takeaways

Two fiber optic switches can be connected using compatible SFP/SFP+ modules and fiber optic cables, with proper attention to fiber type, connectors, and redundancy setup.

Step 1: Determine Fiber Type and Distance

- Multimode fiber (MMF) is suitable for short distances (up to 550 meters), while single-mode fiber (SMF) is used for longer distances (kilometers) and higher bandwidth .

- For typical office or campus setups under 100 meters, multimode fiber is usually sufficient .

Step 2: Select SFP/SFP+ Modules

- Each switch must have SFP or SFP+ ports compatible with the fiber type.

- Ensure both switches use matching modules (e.g., multimode SFP to multimode SFP) and the same wavelength .

- SFP+ modules are required only if you need speeds above 1 Gbps; otherwise, standard SFP modules suffice .

Step 3: Choose Connectors and Patch Cables

- Common connectors are LC or SC, depending on the switch and SFP module .

- Use fiber patch cords to connect the SFP modules on each switch. Ensure TX (transmit) on one switch connects to RX (receive) on the other .

Step 4: Configure Redundancy (Optional)

- To avoid network loops and provide failover, use two fiber links between switches and configure them as a Layer 2 EtherChannel or port channel .

- This setup ensures that if one fiber link fails, the other continues to carry traffic without manual intervention.

Step 5: Physical Connection

- Insert the SFP/SFP+ modules into the fiber ports of each switch.
- Connect the fiber patch cords between the switches, ensuring correct TX/RX alignment.
- Verify link lights on the switches to confirm connectivity.

Step 6: Verify and Test

- Check the switch interface status to ensure the link is up.
 - Test data transfer between devices on both switches to confirm proper operation.
- By following these steps, you can connect two fiber optic switches efficiently, maintain high-speed data transfer, and optionally implement redundancy for network reliability .

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