

How often should the core switch be restarted

Article Overview

A core switch typically takes between 5 and 15 minutes to fully restart, depending on the model, software image, and configuration.

Boot Time Overview

The exact restart time for a core switch varies by manufacturer, model, and software version. For example, Cisco Catalyst 3750 and 3850 switches generally take 5-12 minutes to boot, with Install mode on the 3850 being slower than Bundle mode due to larger software images and additional initialization tasks . High-end switches like the Cisco 6500 series may take longer, especially if multiple line cards or redundant supervisors are involved, though warm-reload features can reduce downtime . For most managed gigabit switches, boot times are typically 1-5 minutes, with some models capable of responding to pings in under 2 minutes . Factors such as firmware size, configuration complexity, and stack recovery can extend this period.

Factors Affecting Restart Duration

- o Software image size: Larger IOS or firmware images require more time to decompress and initialize .
- o Redundant hardware: Switches with multiple supervisors or line cards may take longer to synchronize and initialize all components .
- o Configuration complexity: Extensive VLANs, routing tables, and security policies can increase boot time.
- o Warm-reload capability: Some enterprise switches support warm reloads, which preserve certain runtime states and reduce downtime .

Best Practices

- o Schedule during maintenance windows to minimize network disruption .
- o Back up configurations before rebooting to ensure rapid recovery if issues occur .
- o Monitor console output during the restart to detect errors or failed modules .
- o Consider redundancy: In critical networks, using stacked switches or redundant paths allows traffic to continue while one switch reboots . In summary, while a typical core switch restart ranges from 5 to 15 minutes, planning for the upper end of this range is prudent, especially for high-end enterprise switches with complex configurations or multiple line cards. Proper preparation and redundancy can minimize operational impact during the reboot.

Once you know what the goal is, you can determine how likely weekly reboots are going to advance that goal.

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I'm betting that the

Standard practice should be to refresh the core and edge switches appropriately every 5-7 years to avoid all those issues. The

By understanding the factors that influence how often a network switch should be rebooted, you can proactively

Seeking opinions on a perplexing IT practice: a company regularly reboots customers' switches weekly. This seems

Ever punched in that trusty reload command on a misbehaving Cisco switch ? It's networking's equivalent of "turning it off and on

There's no definitive rule for how often you should reboot your standalone router, gateway, or mesh system. Ideally,

I have a power switch that is constantly pinging towards the first hop on the Internet. When connectivity is down for a

When rebooting a network switch fixes issues--and when it only hides deeper problems. Learn how to evaluate reboot cycles,

Hi all. We will be swapping our existing core switch for a new one and I want to get some verification that the procedure

Discover what a Core Switch is, its pivotal role in network architecture, and how it boosts performance and reliability in

Hi I am migrating our core switches next weekend and was looking for some advice on the actual move itself. I am

How often should a core switch be replaced? The lifespan of a core switch can vary depending on factors such as

How to Restart a Network Switch Precautions When Restarting Network Switches FAQs: Network Switch Restarts

How often should network equipment be restarted? I ask because my boss has requested that every weekend, I restart every bit of

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I will be swapping out an old core switch, 3750 G for a new one a 3850 G. The Team Lead want's me to put together a

A switch should only need to be rebooted if doing a firmware change. I can maybe see rebooting a switch if needing

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