


## Selecting Cisco Switches-Campus, Branch, Digital Building

How to identify the right Cisco switch for your needs?  
Whether you're acquiring a new switch, just read check a few simple questions and get your results.

1. Are you purchasing a new switch or upgrading an old one?	2. What's the purpose of the new switch?	3. Where will you deploy the new switch?	4. Do you need converged wired and wireless support?	5. What are your connectivity needs?	6. What type of switch do you prefer?		Baseline Switch	Full-Featured Switch
New Switch	Access	Branch	Yes	Multigigabit Ethernet	Modular		Cisco Catalyst 4500E (Supervisor 9-E)	<a href="#">Cisco Catalyst 9400 Series</a> <sup>*2</sup>
					Stackable		<a href="#">Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series</a>	Cisco Catalyst 9300 Series <sup>*1</sup> Cisco Catalyst 3850 Series
			No	Multigigabit Ethernet	Modular		Cisco Catalyst 4500E (Supervisor 9-E)	Cisco Catalyst 9400 Series <sup>*2</sup>
					Stackable		<a href="#">Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series</a>	Cisco Catalyst 9300 Series <sup>*1</sup> Cisco Catalyst 3850 Series
				Gigabit Ethernet	Modular		Cisco Catalyst 4500E (Supervisor 8L-E)	Cisco Catalyst 9400 Series <sup>*2</sup>
					Stackable		Cisco Catalyst 2960-X Series	Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series Cisco Catalyst 9300 Series <sup>*1</sup>
					Non-stackable		Cisco Catalyst 2960-L Series	Cisco Catalyst 2960-CX Series Cisco Catalyst Digital Building Series
					Cloud Managed		Cisco Meraki MS Series	—
				Fast Ethernet	—		Cisco Catalyst 2960-Plus Series	—
		Campus	Yes	Multigigabit Ethernet	Modular		Cisco Catalyst 4500E (Supervisor 9-E)	Cisco Catalyst 9400 Series <sup>*2</sup>
					Stackable		<a href="#">Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series</a>	Cisco Catalyst 9300 Series <sup>*1</sup> Cisco Catalyst 3850 Series
				Gigabit Ethernet	Modular		<a href="#">Cisco Catalyst 4500E</a> (Supervisor 9-E)	Cisco Catalyst 9400 Series <sup>*2</sup>
					Stackable		Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series	Cisco Catalyst 9300 Series <sup>*1</sup> Cisco Catalyst 3850 Series
			No	Multigigabit Ethernet	Modular		Cisco Catalyst 4500E (Supervisor 8L-E)	Cisco Catalyst 9400 Series <sup>*2</sup>
					Stackable		Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series	Cisco Catalyst 9300 Series <sup>*1</sup> Cisco Catalyst 3850 Series
				Gigabit Ethernet	Modular		<a href="#">Cisco Catalyst 4500E</a> (Supervisor 8L-E)	Cisco Catalyst 9400 Series <sup>*2</sup>
					Stackable		Cisco Catalyst 2960-X Series	Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series Cisco Catalyst 9300 Series <sup>*1</sup>
					Non-stackable		Cisco Catalyst 2960-L Series	—
					Cloud Managed		Cisco Meraki MS Series	—
		Digital Building	—	Multigigabit Ethernet	—		Cisco Catalyst 2960-Plus Series	—
				Gigabit Ethernet	—		Cisco Catalyst 3560-CX Series	—
				Fast Ethernet	—		Cisco Catalyst 2960-CX Series	Cisco Catalyst Digital Building Series Cisco Catalyst 2960-L Series
	Backbone	—		High Density (10/40/100 Gbps)	—		Cisco Catalyst 2960-C Series	Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series
				Medium Density (1/10/40 Gbps)	Modular		Cisco Nexus 7000 Series (Recommended Product)	Cisco Nexus 9500 Series <sup>*3</sup> (Alternative Product)
					Standalone		Cisco Catalyst 6500-E (Supervisor 2T)	Cisco Catalyst 9400 Series <sup>*2</sup> Cisco Catalyst 6807-XL (Supervisor 6T)
				Medium Density (1/10 Gbps)	Modular		Cisco Catalyst 3850 10G Fiber	Cisco Nexus 9500 Series <sup>*3</sup> Cisco Catalyst 6840-X
					Standalone		Cisco Catalyst 4500E (Supervisor 8-E)	<a href="#">Cisco Catalyst 9400 Series</a> <sup>*2</sup>
				Cisco Catalyst 3850 Fiber	Cisco Nexus 9500 Series <sup>*3</sup> Cisco Catalyst 3850 10G Fiber			
Note								
*1. Cat9300:		*2. Cat9400:		*3. Cat9500:				
Advantages Over Baseline Switch:		Advantages Over Baseline Switch:		Advantages Over Baseline Switch:				
· 2x stacking bandwidth (960 Gbps)		· Cisco DNA Center and SD-Access		· 2x the capacity with 960Gbps total bandwidth				
· 2.5 G and mGig		· 2.5 G and Multigigabit Ethernet		· 48 x mGig and 2 x 40-Gbps uplinks				
· Encrypted Traffic Analytics		· Enhanced security		· Encrypted Traffic Analytics				
· x86 CPU for containers		· Built-in wireless controller						
		· up to 9Tbps bandwidth capacity						
		· Support for ISSU in 7 and 10-slot chassis						
		· Enhanced Limited Lifetime Warranty (E-LLW)						

### Looking for other types of switches?

View more brand network switches, [Cisco Campus / Data Center Switches](#), [HPE / Aruba / Data Center / ProCurve Switches](#), [Huawei Campus Switches / 5700 / 5720, 2700 / 3700 Switches](#), etc.

### More Related:

[Competitive Switching Comparison: Cisco vs. HPE/Aruba vs. Huawei vs. Dell vs. Netgear vs. Dlink vs. Meraki](#)  
[Mapping between Catalyst 3850, Catalyst 4500E/4500X, Catalyst 6800 and Catalyst 9000](#)  
[Cisco SMB Switching Portfolio Transition](#)  
[Quiz for Cisco Nexus Product Family & Evolution of Data Center Architecture](#)  
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