

## Guide to Select and Upgrade Cisco Data Center Switch

How to identify the right Cisco Data Center/Nexus Switch for your needs?  
Whether you're acquiring a new switch or upgrading an old one, 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 functions are needed from the switch?	3. What's the purpose of the new switch?	Or Which Cisco switch are you upgrading?	4. What are your design requirements?	What are your connectivity needs?	5. Do you need a switch or a fabric extender?	6. What type of switch do you prefer?	Recommended Product	Alternative Product		
<b>New Switch</b>	LAN or LAN/SAN	Access/Leaf	---	Converged LAN and SAN	---	Switch	Modular	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 7000 Series</a> Cisco Nexus 1000V Virtual Switch	---		
							Fixed	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 5600 Series</a> Cisco Nexus 1000V Virtual Switch			
							Fabric Extender	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 2300 Series</a>			
		Aggregation/Spine		Switch		Modular	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 9500 Series</a>	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 7000 Series</a>			
						Fixed	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 9300 Series</a>	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 3000 Series</a>			
						Fabric Extender	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 2300 Series</a>				
	Core	Converged LAN and SAN	ACI-Ready	---	---	Modular	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 7000 Series</a>	---			
						Fixed	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 5600 Series</a>				
						Modular	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 9500 Series</a>				
	SAN Only	Access	---	---	Fibre Channel	---	Modular	Cisco MDS 9706 Multilayer Director	Cisco MDS 9710 Multilayer Director		
							Fixed	Cisco MDS 9396S 16G Multilayer Fabric Switch	Cisco MDS 9148S 16G Multilayer Fabric Switch		
							FCoE	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 5600 Series</a>			
Core		Fibre Channel			---		---	FCoE	---	Cisco MDS 9710 Multilayer Director	Cisco MDS 9706 Multilayer Director
										<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 7000 Series</a>	Cisco MDS 9700 Series Multilayer Directors
										Cisco MDS 9250i Multiservice Fabric Switch	
<b>Upgrade</b>	LAN or LAN/SAN	---	Cisco Catalyst 6500 non-E	---	---	---	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 9500 Series</a>	---			
			Cisco Nexus 2148T				<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 2300 Series</a>				
			<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 2232</a>				<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 2300 Series</a>				
			<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 2248T</a>				<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 2300 Series</a>				
			Cisco Nexus 5010				Converged LAN and SAN		<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 5600 Series</a>		
			Cisco Nexus 5020				Converged LAN and SAN		<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 9300 Series</a>		
			Cisco Nexus 5548P				Converged LAN and SAN		<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 5600 Series</a>		
			Cisco Nexus 6004				Converged LAN and SAN		<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 9300 Series</a>		
	Cisco Nexus 7000 with Supervisor 1	ACI-Ready	<a href="#">Cisco Nexus 9300 Series</a>								
	SAN Only	---	---	Cisco MDS 9020	---	---	---	Cisco MDS 9148S 16G Multilayer Fabric Switch	---		
				Cisco MDS 9120				Cisco MDS 9148S 16G Multilayer Fabric Switch			
				<a href="#">Cisco MDS 9124</a>				Cisco MDS 9148S 16G Multilayer Fabric Switch			
Cisco MDS 9134				Cisco MDS 9148S 16G Multilayer Fabric Switch							
Cisco MDS 9140				Cisco MDS 9148S 16G Multilayer Fabric Switch							
Cisco MDS 9148				Cisco MDS 9148S 16G Multilayer Fabric Switch							
Cisco MDS 9216/9216A				Cisco MDS 9250i Multiservice Fabric Switch							
Cisco MDS 9216i				Cisco MDS 9250i Multiservice Fabric Switch							
Cisco MDS 9222i	Cisco MDS 9250i Multiservice Fabric Switch										
Cisco MDS 9509	Cisco MDS 9710 Multilayer Director	Cisco MDS 9706 Multilayer Director									

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:**

- [Guide to Upgrade Cisco Access and Backbone Switch](#)
- [Selecting Cisco Switches-Campus, Branch, Digital Building](#)
- [Find the Right 3650 and 3850 Models](#)
- [Cisco Catalyst 2960/2960-SF/2960-S Series Transition Guide](#)
- [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](#)
- [See More Cisco Switch Topics](#)