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r/HomeNetworking



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r/HomeNetworking • 5 yr. ago

gribson



Layer 3 Switch, Or Layer 2 + Firewall/Router?

Advice

So I'm finally upgrading my home network from IPtables on a KVM host + OpenWRT on a TP-Link C7, and am trying to decide what the best architecture would be for my needs. I need to do some basic inter-VLAN policy-based routing, along with external NAT, port forwarding, and VPN.

I'd like to hear some suggestions on how to best implement this. I'm planning to use EOL enterprise equipment, partly for the cost and performance compared to consumer devices, but mostly for the nerd-cred. My initial thoughts are to go with a layer-3 switch like a Cisco SG300, because the heaviest load on my OpenWRT box during regular operation comes from VLAN routing. Then my external network needs can be handled by a Forigate 60D or similar.

BUT I've never used a layer-3 switch before, so I'm kind of guessing at whether this is best option. I know that I could buy a decent used layer-2 switch for peanuts, and use a more powerful router to handle all my layer-3 needs, but I'm worried that the router would still be the bottleneck of my network.



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3



7



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HelloYesThisIsNo • 5y ago

layer 2 switch + proper firewall for you layer 3 needs.



2



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Unless there are large amount of inter-VLAN traffics going on, Layer 2 switches + router on a stick approach would be simpler and cheaper than Layer 3 switches approach.

↑ 2 ↓ ...



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Anyone Know Where To Source This?

5.1K upvotes · 277 comments



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Was planning on hiring someone to run ethernet through my walls. Was asked to send a photo of the network panel and the inside of a wall plate. Found string on both ends... cou...

698 upvotes · 226 comments



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Ethernet Stress Test (Cable Torture)

587 upvotes · 76 comments



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Please help im desperate and confused

101 upvotes · 61 comments



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Last update: I'm not getting gigabit but my husband is

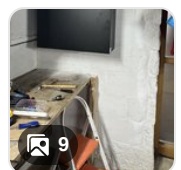
316 upvotes · 21 comments



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Thought I would share my home setup

170 upvotes · 24 comments



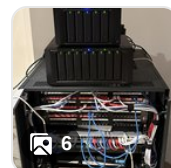
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New house (UK)...trying to understand what's what

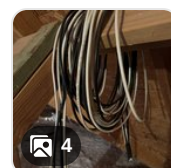


223 upvotes · 94 comments



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Ethernet through the attic or use this coax?



182 upvotes · 92 comments



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Gigabit Over Thermostat Wiring lol

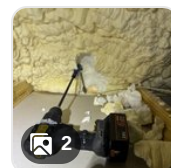


1.2K upvotes · 113 comments



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DIY Ethernet installation



102 upvotes · 36 comments



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Can I run an Ethernet cable through this vent to the next floor?



263 upvotes · 118 comments



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2 Cat6 Ethernet ports in all rooms, 1 works other does not



97 upvotes · 41 comments

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145 upvotes · 87 comments



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Chase a network problem. Took me forever to figure it out



316 upvotes · 115 comments



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Any of you been CGNAT'd by your ISP?

144 upvotes · 158 comments



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New home network setup



218 upvotes · 30 comments



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Virgin Media Super hub 3 too many devices advice on way forward



136 upvotes · 41 comments



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If I name my wifi access points the same, will my phone auto connect to the strongest?

141 upvotes · 143 comments



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TP-Link potential U.S. ban discussion

225 upvotes · 270 comments



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Bought a house. Help. What is this?



369 upvotes · 75 comments

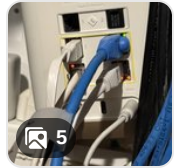
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282 upvotes · 223 comments



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Follow up: I'm not getting gigabit but my husband is



258 upvotes · 140 comments



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First Time Networking in my first home. How did I do?



434 upvotes · 69 comments



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Just got my new router! Very happy with my little network.



231 upvotes · 39 comments

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