

WAN and LAN ports can be connected to the switch simultaneously

Article Overview

Connecting WAN and LAN ports to the same switch is technically possible but introduces risks such as loops, traffic drops, and security vulnerabilities unless properly managed with VLANs or careful configuration.

Technical Considerations

Connecting both WAN and LAN ports to the same switch can work under certain conditions, but it is not considered best practice. Key issues include:

- o Layer 2 Loops: If the WAN and LAN interfaces are part of the same bridge on the switch, a loop can occur, causing broadcast storms and network instability. Without Spanning Tree Protocol (STP), this can crash the network; with STP, one port may be blocked, disrupting connectivity .
- o DHCP Conflicts: If the WAN interface receives an IP via DHCP from the LAN network, it can cause routing conflicts. To prevent this, the WAN interface should be assigned a static IP, and any DHCP servers on the LAN or ISP side should be disabled or carefully managed .
- o Traffic Drops: Users have reported intermittent packet loss when both WAN and LAN are connected to the same switch, especially if the router or firewall is not configured to handle overlapping traffic correctly .

Security Implications

- o Exposure Risk: Placing an untrusted WAN connection on the same physical switch as a trusted LAN can expose internal devices to attacks if VLANs or firewall rules are not implemented .
- o Segmentation: Using VLANs to separate WAN and LAN traffic on the same switch is recommended. This ensures that WAN traffic is isolated from LAN devices, reducing the risk of unauthorized access .

Workarounds and Best Practices

- o VLAN Separation: Configure the switch to assign WAN and LAN ports to separate VLANs. The router should support VLAN tagging to maintain logical separation .
- o Static IP Assignment: Assign static IPs to WAN interfaces to avoid DHCP conflicts and ensure proper routing .
- o Dedicated Switch or Ports: In small setups, using separate switches or dedicated ports for WAN and LAN can simplify configuration and reduce risk .
- o Firewall and ACLs: Apply firewall rules and access control lists to prevent WAN traffic from reaching sensitive LAN devices .

Summary



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While connecting WAN and LAN ports to the same switch is feasible, it requires careful configuration to avoid loops, DHCP conflicts, and security vulnerabilities. The safest approach is to use VLANs for logical separation, assign static IPs, and implement firewall rules. For simpler or small-scale networks, using separate switches or dedicated ports is often the most reliable solution.

UniFi Dual WAN Setup | Ubiquiti Router Load Balancing & Backup Internet Bogdan |

UniFi supports up to eight WAN interfaces total, limited only by available physical ports while reserving at least one for LAN

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Then, for the physical wan connection, you'll want to remove any network association and then send it as a tagged

I have a 3560 switch and want to be able to allocate WAN connections to my VMs as well as LAN connections. The

You could eliminate the complexities on the router by connecting both a LAN and WAN port to the switch. But if you

As long as you setup the VLANs properly, it doesn't matter if you use one or two nics. The only thing that matters is you set the

I need some ports at L2 with the cable modem and that is very simple: just configure another switch port as "access

I'm setting up a multiwan situation where the two WAN sources are in different rooms, each connected to a router

What are the security implications (if any) of placing unfirewalled (untrusted) Internet/WAN connections in one VLAN

Make sure to configure your router correctly to ensure a stable and secure connection. Conclusion In conclusion,

WAN-2 = Backup WAN The instructions show how to add a TV to use WAN-2. You need to do the same for

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the other

If you need more than one port, a network switch can be connected to the ethernet adapter. Alternatively, the Starlink Performance

Comprehensive guide on router ports including LAN, WAN, USB, and console. Learn

Q1: Two (or more) WAN interfaces, even for a single LAN, are indeed typically used for redundancy and/or load

Should the IP address of the switch be a LAN or WAN address (or what are the implications of doing either), and how

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