

# How many years does the core switch of a network last



## Overview

On average, a well-maintained network switch can last between 5 and 10 years. However, the exact lifespan depends on factors such as usage, environmental conditions, and the rate of technological advancement. For 2026, there's a new variable that didn't exist five years ago: AI infrastructure is pulling networking refresh cycles forward by 18 to 36 months in environments running GPU. I am currently running multiple HP E5412zl Switches they are about 14 years old. What are some best practices as when to replace these?

They work great have had a few modules fail over the years usually its a PoE issue, but HPE/Aruba has been very responsive sending out replacements quickly. However, this isn't a hard-and-fast rule. Several factors can significantly impact its longevity, turning that decade of reliable service into a premature tech graveyard.



## Article Content

What's the Typical Lifespan of a Network Switch?

On average, a well-maintained network switch can last between 5 and 10 years. However, the exact lifespan depends on factors such as usage, environmental conditions, and the rate of technological

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What is the lifespan of a network switch?

Consider replacing switches every 5-7 years, even if they're still functioning, to avoid potential disruptions. This is especially true for critical network infrastructure.

How often do you replace core networking Equipment?

I expect that some of my Cisco switches, most of which I bought used, will be 20 years or older before I retire them. I honestly don't know why I would retire a gigabit PoE switch.

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How Long Does Networking Equipment Last? 2026 Lifespan Guide

Core and distribution switches with chassis-based modular designs typically run 7 to 10 years, with some platforms extending beyond 12 years through line card refreshes.

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How Often To Replace A Network Switch

Throughout this article, we will explore the factors that influence the decision to replace a network switch, shedding light on the signs that indicate it may be time for an upgrade.

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How often do you replace core networking Equipment?

Hence after a full review we replaced our Core and firewall environment with Cisco 3750X series which do support 10GB but these again were new switches we purchased several

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How long does a network switch last? Evernex explains

In practice, industrial network switches can last 10-15 years or more, depending on operating conditions. However, lifecycle is also influenced by factors such as power quality,

What Exactly Is the Life Cycle of a Cisco Switch? Could Ignoring It Gut ...

The life cycle of a Cisco switch isn't a suggestion; it's a financial and operational timer ticking down from Day One. Miss a phase, and you risk security breaches, compliance failures, ...

The Bathtub Curve: Exploring the Longevity of Networking Equipment

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What is the life expectancy of a network switch?

The lifespan of a network switch depends on a bunch of factors, like the type of switch, how heavily it's used, and the environment it's in. Generally speaking, you can expect a consumer

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