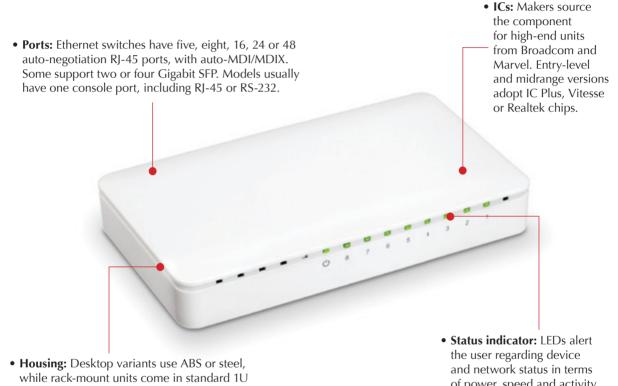
Gigabit, managed units edging out Fast Ethernet

Typical features



19in steel casing. Metal models have thermal holes to enhance heat dissipation. Some integrate hot-swappable cooling fans.

of power, speed and activity.

| Price range (per unit) | Basic features |
|---------------------------|--|
| \$4 to \$80 | Fast Ethernet type; managed or unmanaged; 802.3, 802.3µ; eight, 16, 24, 48 10/100Mbps auto-negotiation RJ-45 ports, auto-MDI/MDIX; 802.3x flow control for full-duplex, backpressure for half-duplex modes; LED indicators |
| \$81 to \$1,000 | Gigabit Ethernet type; managed; one console, eight, 16, 24, 48 10/100/1,000Mbps auto-negotiation RJ-45 ports, auto-MDI/MDIX; VLAN, command-line interface, Telnet, QoS; LED indicators |
| Above \$3,000 | 10 Gigabit Ethernet type; L3 switching; 240Gbps switch fabric, hardware routing; up to 80km transfer; direct connection to MAN backbone networks; quota system for connected hosts per port, 802.1x port-based user authentication; ACL for L2-L4 data filtering |

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Top trends

Product gallery

- Going for faster speed: Gigabit Ethernet switches are expected to displace mainstream Fast Ethernet by year-end. A few companies are also developing more 10 Gigabit versions in anticipation of growing demand. Key players Cisco, HP and Juniper currently dominate this high-end segment. Local companies also offer 40 and 100 Gigabit kinds.
- Intelligent management: Suppliers are boosting their production of managed variants to suit complex network setups. They are also releasing more models with router and power-over-Ethernet capability.
- **Target applications:** Manufacturers will continue to cater to the home and SOHO markets while expanding reach to the medium- and large-enterprise segment. A rising number of major players are also aiming for data center and campus core deployment via 10 Gigabit Ethernet switches.
- **Output forecast:** Yield is projected to increase by more than 10 percent. Makers anticipate sustained growth in coming years as migration to Gigabit and later to 10 Gigabit accelerates.

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