

Can Huawei APs be connected to other switches



Overview

In some scenarios, such as outdoors, some APs cannot be connected to the switch through Ethernet cables.

Key Takeaways

Huawei APs are primarily designed to connect to Huawei switches, and direct connection to third-party switches is generally not officially supported.

Compatibility Overview

Huawei APs, such as the AirEngine 5762-15HW and AirEngine 9700D-S, are tested and optimized to work with Huawei access switches, particularly the S5700 series and other Huawei PEN solutions . Direct connection to non-Huawei switches is not officially supported, and whether a third-party switch can be used depends on its ability to provide proper PoE, VLAN tagging, and CAPWAP management traffic handling .

Key Considerations for Connecting APs

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Power over Ethernet (PoE): Huawei APs often require PoE. When connecting to non-Huawei switches, ensure the switch can supply the correct PoE standard and power budget. Huawei documentation notes that improper PoE delivery can cause backfeed voltage issues or AP startup failures .

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VLAN and Management Traffic: APs communicate with the Access Controller (AC) using CAPWAP tunnels for management and service traffic. Proper VLAN configuration is required on the switch to carry management VLANs and service VLANs. Non-Huawei switches must support VLAN tagging and proper forwarding of CAPWAP packets .

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Access Controller (AC) Dependency: Huawei APs are typically managed via a Huawei AC. Even if connected to a third-party switch, the AP must be able to reach the AC over Layer 2 or Layer 3. Static IPs, gateway configuration, and reachable routes are necessary for APs to go online .

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Licensing and AP Types: Some Huawei ACs limit the number of APs based on licenses. Ensure the AP type is supported by the AC and that licenses are sufficient for the number of APs deployed .

Practical Recommendation

While technically possible to connect Huawei APs to third-party switches if PoE and VLAN requirements are met, Huawei strongly recommends using Huawei switches to ensure full functionality, stability, and support. Using non-Huawei switches may result in limited features, connectivity issues, or unsupported configurations .

In summary, Huawei APs can sometimes be connected to other switches if the switch meets PoE and VLAN requirements, but for reliable operation and official support, Huawei switches are the preferred choice.

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Daisy chaining APs or connect them into the central router?

Both options are connected entirely by ethernet cable and the access points act as ethernet switches: In Option A,

Mesh Configuration for APs

In some scenarios, such as outdoors, some APs cannot be connected to the switch through Ethernet cables. In this case, you can

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