

Connect a Network Based on a Network Diagram

Cabling rules

- **PC/Laptop/Server ↔ Switch:** Copper Straight-Through (e.g., PC `FastEthernet0` → Switch `Fa0/1`)
- **Router ↔ Switch:** Copper Straight-Through (e.g., Router `G0/0` → Switch `G0/1`)
- **Switch ↔ Switch:** Copper Crossover (unless the activity explicitly says “auto-MDIX”; most PT gradings expect crossover)
- **Router ↔ Router (WAN Serial):** Serial DCE ↔ DTE (set **clock rate** on the **DCE** side)
- **Console setup:** Console cable (PC `RS-232` → device `Console`) for initial CLI access
- **Wireless end-hosts:** No cable; associate via Wireless settings to the AP/Router

Tip: In many graded PKAs, the exact **cable type** matters even if auto MDIX would work. Don’t use Auto-Connect unless the instructions say you can.

Physical view

Step 1 (color): The **Copper Straight-Through** cable in Packet Tracer is **green**.

Step 2 (make the connections with the green cable):

- PC-A `FastEthernet0` → S1 `Fa0/1`
- R1 `GigabitEthernet0/0/1` → S1 `Gi0/1`
- R1 `GigabitEthernet0/0/0` → S1 `Gi0/2`

If your router shows `G0/0` and `G0/1` instead of `G0/0/0` and `G0/0/1`, map them the same way:

`R1 G0/1 → S1 Gi0/1` and `R1 G0/0 → S1 Gi0/2`

Quick build order

Note each device model, interface type (Fa/Gi/Se), and the exact **port numbers** shown in the diagram.

If a router needs serial and doesn't have it, **power off**, add an appropriate **HWIC-2T** (or similar), then power on.

Place and cable

End-hosts → Access switch using Straight-Through.

Access switch → Distribution/Core or Router using Straight-Through on Gigabit if available.

Inter-switch link(s) with Crossover (often on **Gi0/1↔Gi0/1**).

WAN serial if shown: R1 **S0/0/0** (DCE) ↔ R2 **S0/0/0** (DTE).

Bring up L2 (switch)

If VLANs are in the diagram, create them and assign access ports; set trunks on uplinks.

```
enable
configure terminal
vlan 10
vlan 20
interface range fa0/1-12
  switchport mode access
  switchport access vlan 10
interface range fa0/13-24
  switchport mode access
  switchport access vlan 20
```

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```
interface gi0/1
    switchport mode trunk
end
write
```

Address the end-hosts

Desktop → **IP Configuration**: set **IP**, **Subnet Mask**, **Default Gateway**, and **DNS** exactly as the diagram shows.

Address the router(s)

Enable LAN and WAN interfaces and match IPs/masks from the diagram. Turn interfaces **up**.

```
enable
configure terminal
interface g0/0
    ip address 192.168.10.1 255.255.255.0
    no shutdown
interface g0/1
    ip address 192.168.20.1 255.255.255.0
    no shutdown
interface s0/0/0
    ip address 10.0.0.1 255.255.255.252
    clock rate 64000      ! only on the DCE end
    no shutdown
end
write
```

Routing (pick one that matches your diagram)

Static default route:

```
configure terminal

ip route 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0 10.0.0.2

end
```

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`write`

Static inter-LAN routes: add `ip route <dest> <mask> <next-hop>` as needed.

RIP v2 (if requested):

```
router rip
version 2
no auto-summary
network 192.168.10.0
network 192.168.20.0
network 10.0.0.0
```

OSPF (common in multi-area labs):

```
router ospf 1
network 192.168.10.0 0.0.0.255 area 0
network 192.168.20.0 0.0.0.255 area 0
network 10.0.0.0 0.0.0.3 area 0
```

Default gateways on VLAN SVI (if Layer-3 switch is used)

If a **router-on-a-stick** is used instead, create subinterfaces on the router and trunk on the switch uplink.

```
! Router-on-a-stick example
interface g0/0.10
  encapsulation dot1Q 10
  ip address 192.168.10.1 255.255.255.0
interface g0/0.20
  encapsulation dot1Q 20
  ip address 192.168.20.1 255.255.255.0
```

Verify & save

On routers/switches:

```
show ip interface brief
show interfaces status
show ip route
show cdp neighbors detail
```

On PCs: Command Prompt → ping gateway, then other subnets.

Save: `copy running-config startup-config` (or `write`).

Common pitfalls that break the grader

- **Wrong cable type** (e.g., straight-through used where crossover is expected between switches).
- **Wrong ports** (diagram expects `Fa0/6` but you used `Fa0/7`).
- **Interfaces left administratively down** (forgot `no shutdown`).
- **Serial DCE clock rate missing** on the DCE side.
- **Host default gateway** not set or wrong subnet masks.
- **Trunk not configured** when VLANs need to cross switches.
- **Using Auto-Connect** when the PKA expects manual cable selection.