

CCNA

ICND-1 Command Reference

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Part I

ICND1 - Switches

Chapter 1

Basic Cisco Catalyst Switch Configuration

1.1 Port Addressing

The addressing of ports on a Cisco Catalyst Switch follows the format:

```
interface-type Stack #/Card #/Port #
```

Let us consider the **Catalyst 3750** switch. This switch isn't modular and thus can't have multiple cards, but it supports Stack-wise, which is a Cisco technology to combine multiple physical switches in a stack into a single logical switch. Thus, the middle number when referring to a particular interface (i.e., port on a physical switch) will **always be 0**. Thus, the Giga-bit port that's 16th port on the 3rd stack member of switches will be written as: GigabitEthernet 3/0/16, or **g3/0/16** for short.

For a **Cisco 2960** switch, there's no option for Stack-wise, and hence we don't need the first number. Then, the name for the interface becomes GigabitEthernet 0/16 or **g0/16**.

1.2 Configuring a Management IP Address

We can connect to the switch physically via the console port, or through one of the interfaces using Ethernet. In case of the later, we have to set up a management IP address through which we can use telnet or SSH to control and configure the switch.

1.2.1 View how we're connected to a Switch

To view how we're presently connected to a switch, we can use the `show line` command:

```
1  sw1>show line
2      Tty Typ      Tx/Rx      A Modem  Roty Acc0 AccI   Uses   Noise  Overruns  Int
3  *    0 CTY          - -          - -      - -    0      0      0/0      -
4      1 AUX    9600/9600      - -          - -      - -    0      0      0/0      -
5      2 VTY          - -          - -      - -    1      0      0/0      -
6      3 VTY          - -          - -      - -    0      0      0/0      -
7      4 VTY          - -          - -      - -    0      0      0/0      -
```

8	5 VTY	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0/0	-
9	6 VTY	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0/0	-

The **asterisk (*)** at the beginning of the line shows that it's the port currently being used. The **CTY** refers to a console port, which is the port we're using. If we were using telnet or SSH, i.e., log in remotely to the switch/router, then one of the **VTY** (*Virtual Terminal*) would've been used.

1.2.2 Privileged mode, auto-completion and showing possible commands

The > sign at the end of the prompt signals that we're currently in *user mode*. To change the configuration on the equipment we need to be in *Privileged mode*, which is indicated by a # prompt. To enter the privileged mode, we use the command `enable`. To leave the privileged mode, we use `disable`:

```
1 sw1>enable
2 sw1#disable
3 sw1>
```

To go into privileged mode, we need not type the entire command. Cisco **IOS** (*Internetwork Operating System*) can show all possible commands that can follow the current string on the present line on pressing the ? key. For example:

```
1 sw1>e?
2 enable ethernet exit
3
4 sw1>en?
5 enable
```

This also means that we don't need to type out the entire command. We can simply use short-cuts for the commands, which are the minimum number of letters in the word of a command that is unique. Thus, in the case of the `enable`, the minimum characters required are 2 since there are 3 commands starting with 'e' but only 1 starting with 'en', i.e., `enable`.

```
1 sw1>en
2 sw1#
```

1.2.3 Configuring the Terminal

While we may be in privileged mode, we still need to tell the switch that we want to configure from the terminal. For this, we use the command `configure terminal`, or **conf t** for short. This would bring us into the **global config** mode:

```
1 sw1#conf t
2 Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
3 sw1(config)#
```

To exit the global configuration mode, we use the `exit` command:

```
1 sw1(config)#exit
2 sw1#
3 *Nov 11 21:36:07.353: %SYS-5-CONFIG_I: Configured from console by console
4 sw1#
```

1.2.4 Interface Configuration Mode

To set the management IP address we need to go to the interface configuration port. On a Cisco Switch, unlike on a PC/Laptop, every interface gets associated to the IP address which is of the network it's connected to. Layer-2 Switches are generally blind to the IP addresses since they don't make forwarding decisions on the basis of IP addresses, but this IP Address is required to be associated with the switch to uniquely identify the switch on the network for remote access through telnet/SSH.

By default, on the switch, all the ports belong to a specific **VLAN(Virtual LAN)**. Thus, we can set the IP address of the *default VLAN*, **vlan1**, to set up the management IP address of the switch. To enter the interface configuration for vlan1, we use: `interface vlan1`, or simply **int vlan1** :

```
1 sw1(config)#int vlan 1
2 sw1(config-if)#
```

The prompt changed to `(config-if)#` to show that we've now entered the *Interface config mode*.

1.2.5 Adding a Management IP

Just like with a PC, we need to set up both the IP address as well as the Subnet Mask. Let us consider the switch needs to have the IP **192.168.1.11/24**. We can't enter the value in suffix notation. The equivalent subnet mask is **255.255.255.0**. Thus, the command becomes:

```
1 sw1(config-if)#ip add 192.168.1.11 255.255.255.0
2 sw1(config-if)#no shutdown
3 sw1(config-if)#
4 *Nov 11 21:51:57.295: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface Vlan1, changed state to up
5 *Nov 11 21:51:58.298: %LINEPROTO-5-UPDOWN: Line protocol on Interface Vlan1, changed
  ↔ state to up
6 sw1(config-if)#
```

Typically the interface `vlan1` (i.e, the 1st virtual LAN) is turned on by default, but sometimes it may have been administratively shut-down, which we can fix using `no shutdown` command, or for short **no shut**.

1.3 Configuring a Default Gateway

A default gateway is required for the switch to determine which path to take to exit it's own subnet and reach another network. While the IP address has to be set for an interface, the default gateway has to be set in global config mode:

```
1 sw1(config)#ip default-gateway 192.168.1.1
```

1.4 Setting Console and VTY Passwords

To set the password for the console port login, we need to enter its configuration, i.e., console line configuration, and then set the password. Let's say we want to set it to *cisco*. We can do this by:

```
1 sw1(config-line)#password cisco
2 sw1(config-line)#login
```

The `login` command enables the password check at login. Unless it's set, even if there's a valid password, the system won't ask for credentials while logging in. Further, to disable password check, we don't have to change/remove the password. We simply need to do `no login`. The login command doesn't work unless there's a password set:

```
1 sw1(config-line)#login
2 % Login disabled on line 0, until 'password' is set
```

1.4.1 Configuring a password for the VTY lines

We could set the password for each VTY line individually, but if we're setting them (or a subset of them) all to an identical config, we can use:

```
1 sw1(config)#line vty 0 5
2 sw1(config-line)#password cisco
3 sw1(config-line)#login
4 sw1(config-line)#end
5 sw1#
```

This is assuming we want to set the password for lines 0-5 and not 6 of the available VTY lines. Also notice that we jump levels till we end the configuration of the switch by using `end` command. Unlike the `exit` command, the `end` command doesn't just jump up to the parent config level, but ends the configuration all together and takes us out of the configuration mode all together.

1.5 Show Running Configuration

To see the current configuration we created (but not yet saved), i.e., the configuration that the device is currently using, we use the command:

```
1 sw1#sh run
2 Building configuration...
3
4 Current configuration : 2911 bytes
5 !
6 ! Last configuration change at 22:48:16 UTC Sun Nov 11 2018
7 !
8 version 15.2
9 service timestamps debug datetime msec
10 service timestamps log datetime msec
11 no service password-encryption
12 service compress-config
13 !
14 hostname sw1
15 ...
16 !
17 interface Vlan1
18 ip address 192.168.1.11 255.255.255.0
```



```
19  !
20  ip default-gateway 192.168.1.1
21  ip forward-protocol nd
22  !
23  ...
24  !
25  line con 0
26    exec-timeout 0 0
27    password cisco
28    login
29  line aux 0
30  line vty 0 4
31    password cisco
32    login
33  line vty 5
34    password cisco
35    login
36  line vty 6
37    login
38  !
39  !
40  end
41
42  sw1#
```

At the very bottom we have the details for the console and the VTY lines. It's completely normal for IOS to break down the configuration for 0-6 into ranges (0-4,5,6), even though we configured them together at the same time.

1.6 Checking for connectivity using Ping

The ping command sends **ICMP (*Internet Control Message Protocol*)** packets to the destination device and waits for *ICMP replies* from it to determine whether the host is up. It can help detect delays and packet drops, and whether the host is even connected i.e., reachable. We can use it by:

```
1  PC-1> ping 192.168.1.11
2  84 bytes from 192.168.1.11 icmp_seq=1 ttl=255 time=3.973 ms
3  84 bytes from 192.168.1.11 icmp_seq=2 ttl=255 time=3.969 ms
4  84 bytes from 192.168.1.11 icmp_seq=3 ttl=255 time=5.951 ms
5  84 bytes from 192.168.1.11 icmp_seq=4 ttl=255 time=3.472 ms
6  84 bytes from 192.168.1.11 icmp_seq=5 ttl=255 time=10.913 ms
```

Some variation of the ping command is available on all major OS (Operating Systems).

1.7 Enabling Telnet Access

Telnet is considered a non-secure method of accessing network equipment since data is sent in plain text and packet capture utils like wireshark can capture the traffic and get access to all the data. Thus **SSH (*Secure Shell*)** is considered a much better alternative.

1.7.1 Show line details

To see the details of the VTY/CTY line, we use:

```
1 sw1#sh line vty 0
2   Tty Typ      Tx/Rx      A Modem  Roty Acc0 AccI    Uses   Noise  Overruns  Int
3     2 VTY              -    -      -    -    -      1      0      0/0      -
4
5 Line 2, Location: "", Type: ""
6 Length: 24 lines, Width: 80 columns
7 Baud rate (TX/RX) is 9600/9600
8 Status: Ready, No Exit Banner
9 Capabilities: none
10 Modem state: Ready
11 Group codes:      0
12 Special Chars: Escape Hold Stop Start Disconnect Activation
13                  ^~x   none  -    -          none
14 Timeouts:         Idle EXEC   Idle Session  Modem Answer  Session  Dispatch
15                  00:10:00      never          none      not set
16                  Idle Session Disconnect Warning
17                  never
18                  Login-sequence User Response
19                  00:00:30
20                  Autoselect Initial Wait
21                  not set
22 Modem type is unknown.
23 Session limit is not set.
24 Time since activation: never
25 Editing is enabled.
26 History is enabled, history size is 20.
27 DNS resolution in show commands is enabled
28 Full user help is disabled
29 Allowed input transports are lat pad telnet rlogin nasi ssh.
30 Allowed output transports are lat pad telnet rlogin nasi ssh.
31 Preferred transport is lat.
32 Shell: enabled
33 Shell trace: off
34 No output characters are padded
35 No special data dispatching characters
```

The two lines of special interest here are:

```
1 Allowed input transports are lat pad telnet rlogin nasi ssh.
2 Allowed output transports are lat pad telnet rlogin nasi ssh.
```

The **Input Transport** refer to the methods via which we're allowed to login to the router whereas the *output transports* are the methods we can use to login to another device from the router. To see all of the transports methods available we use:

```
1 sw1#conf t
2 Enter configuration commands, one per line.  End with CNTL/Z.
3 sw1(config)#line vty 0 6
4
5 sw1(config-line)#transport input ?
6   all      All protocols
7   lat      DEC LAT protocol
8   nasi     NASI protocol
9   none     No protocols
```

```

10 pad      X.3 PAD
11 rlogin   Unix rlogin protocol
12 ssh      TCP/IP SSH protocol
13 telnet   TCP/IP Telnet protocol
14 udptn    UDPTN async via UDP protocol

```

To only allow telnet and SSH, we use:

```

1 sw1(config-line)#transport input telnet ssh
2 sw1(config-line)#end
3 sw1#sh line vty 0
4 ...
5 Allowed input transports are telnet ssh.
6 Allowed output transports are lat pad telnet rlogin nasi ssh.
7 ...

```

1.7.2 Logging in via telnet

To login via telnet from another device, and see which vty we're using, we use the command:

```

1 sw2>telnet 192.168.1.11
2 Trying 192.168.1.11 ... Open
3 ...
4 sw1>sh line
5      Tty Typ      Tx/Rx      A Modem  Roty Acc0 AccI   Uses   Noise  Overruns  Int
6 *    0 CTY          - -          - -      - 0      0      0/0     -
7      1 AUX  9600/9600  - -          - -      - 0      0      0/0     -
8 *    2 VTY          - -          - -      - 2      0      0/0     -
9      3 VTY          - -          - -      - 0      0      0/0     -
10     4 VTY          - -          - -      - 0      0      0/0     -
11 ...
12 sw1>

```

Here we can see we are using VTY 2 for the telnet.

1.7.3 Keyboard Shortcuts for Telnet

Short cut	Action
Ctrl + A	Jump to the start of the line
Ctrl + E	Jump to the end of the line
Ctrl + W	Delete previous word in the line
Ctrl + X	Delete all characters before cursor.
Ctrl + K	Delete all characters from cursor till end.
↑ Arrow	Delete all characters before cursor.
↓ Arrow	Delete all characters before cursor.
Esc + B	Move cursor back 1 word.
Esc + F	Move cursor forward 1 word.

1.7.4 History Buffer

The history buffer contains the last 20 commands used by default. This can be viewed with:

```

1  sw1#show history
2      sh line
3      conf t
4      en
5      conf t
6      sh run
7      sh ver | i up
8      sh line status
9      sh line
10     sh controllers gigabitEthernet 0/0
11     sh cont g 0/0 tab
12     sh cont g 0/0 tabular
13     sh diag
14     sh line
15     sh line vty 0
16     conf t
17     sh line vty 0
18     sh ip int br
19     sh run
20     sh mem
21     sh history
22  sw1#

```

The size of the history buffer can be changed in the line configuration mode with:

```

1  sw1#conf t
2  Enter configuration commands, one per line.  End with CNTL/Z.
3  sw1(config)#line vty 0 6
4  sw1(config-line)#history size ?
5      <0-256>  Size of history buffer
6
7  sw1(config-line)#history size 50

```

Now the history buffer will store the last 50 commands.

1.7.5 IP Interface Connection Overview

The `show ip interface brief` command shows us the connection status of the interface, the IP address assigned to each interface and more.

```

1  sw1#sh ip int brief
2  Interface                IP-Address      OK? Method Status          Protocol
3  GigabitEthernet0/0       unassigned      YES unset  up              up
4  GigabitEthernet0/1       unassigned      YES unset  up              up
5  GigabitEthernet0/2       unassigned      YES unset  up              up
6  GigabitEthernet0/3       unassigned      YES unset  up              up
7  Vlan1                    192.168.1.11    YES manual up              up

```

1.8 Enabling SSH Access

Secure SHell (SSH), unlike Telnet requires both a user-name and a password for authentication. This user-name-password can live either on an external authentication server, or locally, i.e., in the memory of the router itself. In addition, the router also needs to know which domain it's a part of.

1.8.1 Setting up User-name, password and domain name

The username and password commands take care of creating an username and password, and can be used together on the same line. The domain name is set using `ip domain-name` command. These have to be set in the global config mode:

```
1 sw1(config)#username cisco password cisco
2 sw1(config)#ip domain-name somuvmmnet.com
```

The domain name is used in the creation and self-signing of the digital certificate. A public-private key pair is used to enforce authentication. They can be generated using the `crypto key generate rsa`. Note that the mod size has to be ≥ 768 bits for SSH 2.

```
1 sw1(config)#crypto key generate rsa
2 The name for the keys will be: sw1.somuvmmnet.com
3 Choose the size of the key modulus in the range of 360 to 4096 for your
4   General Purpose Keys. Choosing a key modulus greater than 512 may take
5   a few minutes.
6
7 How many bits in the modulus [512]: 1024
8 % Generating 1024 bit RSA keys, keys will be non-exportable...
9 [OK] (elapsed time was 0 seconds)
10
11 sw1(config)#
12 *Nov 12 01:57:14.624: %SSH-5-ENABLED: SSH 1.99 has been enabled
13 sw1(config)#
```

Now we have to choose to use SSH version 2, using:

```
1 sw1(config)#ip ssh version 2
```

Finally we need to tell the device where to find the username and password combination. In this case, it's going to be the device memory itself. Hence, we use the `login local` command in the *line config mode*.

```
1 sw1(config)#line vty 0 6
2 sw1(config-line)#login local
```

1.8.2 Connecting via SSH

Depending on the OS, just like the `ping` command, the input options may vary for the `ssh` command, but the premise remains the same. The following is the method to do this on an IOS terminal:

```
1 sw2#ssh -l cisco 192.168.1.11
2 ...
3 Password:
4 ...
5 sw1>exit
6
7 [Connection to 192.168.1.11 closed by foreign host]
8 sw2#
```

1.9 Viewing Version Information

The `show version` or `sh ver` command shows us some critical information about the device itself. This includes the version of the IOS that's being used by the hardware - a critical piece of information when reporting issues to Cisco's TAC (Technical Assistance Centre).

```
1 sw2#sh ver
2 Cisco IOS Software, ... Version 15.2(20170321:233949)
3 ...
4 sw2 uptime is 6 hours, 33 minutes
5 ...
6 Cisco IOSv () processor (revision 1.0) with 984321K/62464K bytes of memory.
7 ...
8 1 Virtual Ethernet interface
9 4 Gigabit Ethernet interfaces
10 ...
11
12 sw2#
```

The command also shows the uptime of the switch, i.e., how long it's been running. Further it shows the total amount of RAM, which in this case is $984321 + 62464$ KB of memory, i.e., $= 1046785\text{KB} \approx 1\text{GB}$ of RAM. The number and types of interfaces is also displayed.

1.10 Viewing Current Configuration

To show the entirety of the running configuration, we use the `show running-configuration` command, or `sh run` for short. There's also the option of seeing specific lines in the configuration by keyword searching using output filters.

```
1 sw1#sh run
2 Building configuration...
3
4 Current configuration : 3169 bytes
5 !
6 ! Last configuration change at 02:12:13 UTC Mon Nov 12 2018
7 !
8 version 15.2
9 ...
10 hostname sw1
11 ...
12 !
13 username cisco password 0 cisco
14 ...
15 !
16
17 sw1#sh run | i username
18 username cisco password 0 cisco
19 sw1#
```

The second command above uses the `i|` filter that only shows lines including the matching keyword. There are several more criteria, some of which are:

Short cut	Action
<command> i	Only show lines that include the keyword
<command> e	Only show lines that exclude the keyword
<command> b	Begin showing all lines from the first instance of the keyword
<command> s	Only show the section containing the keyword
<command> c	Count the number of lines matching the RegExp

Just like a normal pager in Linux, the output of the show run command is searchable in the format /<keyword> where upon typing the *keyword* after the / character and pressing enter, the screen jumps to the first line containing the keyword.

```

1  sw1#sh run
2  Building configuration...
3  ...
4  username cisco password 0 cisco
5  no aaa new-model
6  !
7  /vty
8  filtering...
9  line vty 0 4
10 password cisco
11 login local
12 history size 50
13 transport input telnet ssh
14 line vty 5
15 password cisco
16 login local
17 history size 50
18 transport input telnet ssh
19 !
20 end
21
22 sw1#

```

1.11 MAC Address (CAM) Table Examination

The primary objective of a Layer 2 Switch is to learn which MAC addresses live off of which port and storing them in a table called Content Addressable Memory (CAM) or MAC Address table.

Then, when it gets a packet destined for a certain MAC Address, it sends it along the corresponding port it looks up from the CAM table. If the address is unknown, it floods all the ports but the port from which the packet was received, in an effort to learn which port is associated with that MAC address and store it in the table, to aid in future lookups.

The contents of the MAC address can be viewed with the show mac address-table command:

```

1  sw1#sh mac address-table
2          Mac Address Table
3  -----
4
5  Vlan    Mac Address      Type      Ports
6  ----    -
7  1       0cee.bab5.5f00   DYNAMIC   Gi0/0

```

```

8      1      0cee.bacd.5000      DYNAMIC      Gi0/1
9      1      0cee.bacd.5001      DYNAMIC      Gi0/0
10 Total Mac Addresses for this criterion: 3

```

The reason there are multiple MAC addresses associated to a certain port is because that MAC address belongs to another switch through which multiple devices can be reachable. Since that switch connects us to those MAC addresses, i.e., is a direct path, the end-user MAC addresses are mapped to the port leading up to the switch.

While our MAC addresses can be obtained beyond switches, they can't be obtained for devices beyond a router. The dynamic entries in the MAC address table can be aged-out/timed-out if no traffic was seen from that port in a certain time (by default 5mins). To see the ageing time, we use:

```

1 sw1#show mac address-table aging-time
2 Global Aging Time: 300
3 Vlan      Aging Time
4 ----      -

```

There can also be statically mapped MAC addresses that aren't learned but hard-coded into the switch.

1.11.1 Adding a Static MAC Address

We can add a static MAC Address mapping using:

```

1 sw1(config)#mac address-table static a820.6332.0087 vlan 1 interface gi 0/3
2 sw1(config)#end
3 sw1#sh mac address-table
4           Mac Address Table
5 -----
6
7 Vlan      Mac Address      Type      Ports
8 ----      -
9      1      0cee.bab5.5f00      DYNAMIC      Gi0/0
10     1      0cee.bacd.5000      DYNAMIC      Gi0/1
11     1      0cee.bacd.5001      DYNAMIC      Gi0/0
12     1      a820.6332.0087      STATIC       Gi0/3
13 Total Mac Addresses for this criterion: 4
14 sw1#

```

This can be handy when we're troubleshooting and trying to ensure that the MAC address of a device has been learned off of the right port.

1.12 Setting the Hostname

The hostname of a network device acts as the name of the device in the network, helping us easily identify the device. If we have multiple switches in a network, as is often the case, the hostname lets us quickly identify and distinguish the devices. We can change the hostname using:

```

1 sw(config)#hostname sw1
2 sw1(config)#end

```

The current hostname is displayed as the first word before the prompt.

1.13 Setting the Enable Password

Since the `Enable` command lets us configure the switch, we should set a password on it. We can do this using the `enable password` command:

```
1 sw1(config)#enable password cisco
2 sw1(config)#end
3 sw1#
4 *Nov 19 05:37:32.191: %SYS-5-CONFIG_I: Configured from console by console
5 sw1#disable
6 sw1>enable
7 Password:
8 sw1#
```

This creates a password that's stored as clear-text in the running config. Anyone who can view the running config will be able to see it:

```
1 sw1#sh run | i cisco
2 enable password cisco
```

To change this, we can store an encrypted password hash, using the `enable secret` command. This has several options in terms of encryption algorithms:

```
1 sw1(config)#enable secret ?
2   0       Specifies an UNENCRYPTED password will follow
3   5       Specifies a MD5 HASHED secret will follow
4   8       Specifies a PBKDF2 HASHED secret will follow
5   9       Specifies a SCRYPT HASHED secret will follow
6   LINE    The UNENCRYPTED (cleartext) 'enable' secret
7   level   Set exec level password
```

For example, the MD5 (Message Digest 5) algorithm when applied on a word will give us a 128-bit hash value, also called a *digest*. For example, the MD5 digest of 'cat' is 'D077F244DEF8A70E5EA758BD8352FCD8'. When someone enters the password, the switch runs the MD5 hashing algorithm on it to get its hash. If the digest matches that already stored in the memory for the password, then the user is granted access. There's no way to get the password directly from the hash, since the hash is like a fingerprint of the password instead of a scrambled up version of the password itself. We can use the `enable secret` command (which uses MD5 as the default algorithm) as:

```
1 sw1(config)#enable secret somu
2 sw1(config)#end
3 sw1#sh run | i enable
4 enable secret 5 $1$/Rxb$NofwEzG6FNec2v9TiU1VA1
5 enable password cisco
```

The 5 before the hash \$1\$/Rxb\$NofwEzG6FNec2v9TiU1VA1 tells us that it's a MD5 digest. There are other algorithms available as well:

Type	Algorithm	Description
5	MD5	Default algorithm; produces 128bit hash; lesser security than the hashes below.
8	PBKDF2	Uses a variant of Password Based Key Derivation Function 2 (PBKDF2) , that itself uses SHA-256 (Secure Hashing Algorithm - 256) to generate a 256-bit hash; more secure than MD5.
9	SCRYPT	Pronounced "S-Crypt"; Like PBKDF2, but requires even more computational resources to crack.

To change the algorithm type while setting the secret we can use `enable algorithm-type` :

```

1  sw1(config)#enable algorithm-type ?
2      md5          Encode the password using the MD5 algorithm
3      scrypt       Encode the password using the SCRYPT hashing algorithm
4      sha256       Encode the password using the PBKDF2 hashing algorithm
5
6  sw1(config)#enable algorithm-type sha256 secret cisco
7  sw1(config)#end
8  sw1#sh run | i enable
9  enable secret 8 $8$srB.hFoYl8uTbI$.h2H8Ux2Ie4F/qDgysbS43/RWT1aapN4rlNIA3/0YUc

```

1.14 Setting the exec-timeout

The default behaviour of the switch is to log out the user after a certain period of inactivity, so that no one gains access if an admin forgets to logout. This can be defined through the `exec-timeout` command, followed by the number of minutes and seconds before time-out:

```

1  sw1#conf t
2  Enter configuration commands, one per line.  End with CNTL/Z.
3  sw1(config)#line con 0
4  sw1(config-line)#exec-timeout 5 30

```

The above sets the execution time-out period to 5m 30s. To remove it, we can use either `no exec-timeout` or `exec-timeout 0 0`.

1.15 Encrypting Passwords on Switches

If we do a `show run` after password command, the password for logging in will be stored in clear text just like in the case of `enable password` command.

```

1  sw1#sh run | s line con
2  line con 0
3      exec-timeout 0 0
4      password cisco
5      login
6  sw1#

```

To store an encrypted version of the password (i.e., **not** a hash), we can use *password encryption service*. We do this using the `service password-encryption` command:

```
1 sw1(config)#service password-encryption
2 sw1(config)#end
3 sw1#sh run | s line con
4 line con 0
5   exec-timeout 0 0
6   password 7 070C285F4D06
7   login
8 sw1#
```

1.15.1 User Privileges

Cisco's IOS allows us to set granular access to commands using the privilege levels associated with a username. There can typically be 0-15 privilege levels. However, we typically only use two values: **0: Normal user** and **15: Administrator**. We can create a new user with a set privilege level using:

```
1 sw1(config)#username somu privilege 15 password cisco
2 sw1(config)#end
3 sw1#sh run | i somu
4 username somu privilege 15 password 0 cisco
5 sw1#
```

Again, if we want the password to be encrypted, we use:

```
1 sw1(config)#serv password-encryption
2 sw1(config)#username somu privilege 15 password cisco
3 sw1(config)#end
4 sw1#sh run | i somu
5 username somu privilege 15 password 7 05080F1C2243
```

These use level 7 encryption, which is very easy to decrypt. Hence, a better method is to use the `secret` command which uses hashing just like in the case of the `enable secret` command.

1.15.2 Storing password hashes for login

If we want to use an encrypted password for login or change the algorithm type used for login, we need to have a username. The command allows us to change the algorithm type as well as set an encrypted password by:

```
1 sw1(config)#username somu algorithm-type scrypt secret cisco
2 sw1(config)#end
3 sw1#sh run | i somu
4 username somu secret 9 $9$JFpvgWWbMj8jr2$cK3k0VWA1xMpGD5Ky6Vj4URxXGgtX4jkyML86D4vuuQ
```

1.15.3 Removing a user

To remove a user, we simply need to use the `no username` command:

```

1 sw1(config)#no username somu
2 This operation will remove all username related configurations with same name.Do you want
  ↵ to continue? [confirm]
3 sw1(config)#

```

1.16 Creating a Banner

A **banner** is a section of text displayed during a specific action, such as during login. There can be several types of banners:

```

1 sw1(config)#banner ?
2  LINE          c banner-text c, where 'c' is a delimiting character
3  config-save   Set message for saving configuration
4  exec          Set EXEC process creation banner
5  incoming      Set incoming terminal line banner
6  login         Set login banner
7  motd          Set Message of the Day banner
8  prompt-timeout Set Message for login authentication timeout
9  slip-ppp      Set Message for SLIP/PPP

```

The banner is added by using the **banner** command, followed by the type of banner (shown in the list above) and finally, the **delimiter**. This delimiter signals the start and end of the banner to IOS and thus, has to be a character that doesn't appear in the banner. We can set the banner with:

```

1 sw1(config)#banner login `
2 Enter TEXT message. End with the character '`'.
3 +-----+
4 | sw1 :      [ Swtich 1 ] +----->
5 | Authorized Access Only! +----->
6 +-----+
7 `
8 sw1(config)#end
9 sw1#sh run | b banner login
10 banner login ^C
11 +-----+
12 | sw1 :      [ Swtich 1 ] +----->
13 | Authorized Access Only! +----->
14 +-----+
15 ^C
16 !

```

During the login sessions, the banner will look like:

```

1 sw1 con0 is now available
2 Press RETURN to get started.
3
4 +-----+
5 | sw1 :      [ Swtich 1 ] +----->
6 | Authorized Access Only! +----->
7 +-----+
8
9 User Access Verification
10 Password:

```

1.17 Specifying Port Speed and Duplex

The speed and duplex settings are critical to ensure that data is sent and received properly, and are set per interface. Depending on the interface, the speed is used to set the transmit (Tx) and Receive (Rx) rates. The typical speed settings available are:

```
1 sw1(config)#int g 0/1
2 sw1(config-if)#speed ?
3     10      Force 10 Mbps operation
4     100     Force 100 Mbps operation
5     1000    Force 1000 Mbps operation
6     auto    Enable AUTO speed configuration
```

Duplex determines whether data can be sent and received at the same time. **Full-duplex** means that data can be both sent and received at the same time, while **half-duplex** means data can only be sent or received at a time. The half-duplex mode allows **CSMA/CD (Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Detection)** to work, which isn't required in full-duplex.

```
1 sw1(config-if)#duplex ?
2     auto    Enable AUTO duplex configuration
3     full    Force full duplex operation
4     half    Force half-duplex operation
```

Note that both speed and duplex settings can be set to auto-negotiate. This means the two ends of the link automatically determine the best settings. However, people may choose to hard-code the speed and duplex settings in case auto-negotiation fails. Typically, if we administer devices on both sides of the link, then we choose to hard-code the settings. However, if the end user device such as a laptop is connected, then we may use auto since we don't know what settings these devices are configured with.

1.17.1 MDI-X (Medium Dependent Interface Crossover)

If we consider an RJ45 connector, the pins 1,2,3 & 5 are used for Ethernet. Here, two wires each are used for transmit and receive. In case we connected two switches using a straight-through Ethernet cable, the transmit wires on both sides will be connected, instead of the transmit wires on one side connecting to the receive wires on the other, leading to a failure of communication.

If we enable **MDI-X** it allows the switch to auto-detect which wires should be used for transmit and which for receive. To turn it on, we use the `mdix auto` command. This only is available, of course, only if the switch itself supports it.

1.18 Saving the Configuration

The running configuration isn't stored in a non-volatile memory, i.e., the changes don't survive a power-cycle. To make the changes permanent, we need to copy them to the NVRAM, by saving them as the **startup-configuration**. For this we use the command : `copy run star:`

```
1 sw1#copy running-config startup-config
2 Destination filename [startup-config]?
3 Building configuration...
```

```
4 Compressed configuration from 2781 bytes to 1574 bytes[OK]
5 *Nov 19 08:21:24.796: %GRUB-5-CONFIG_WRITING: GRUB configuration is being updated on
↪ disk. Please wait...
6 *Nov 19 08:21:25.631: %GRUB-5-CONFIG_WRITTEN: GRUB configuration was written to disk
↪ successfully.
7 sw1#
```

In older versions of IOS, there was a `write memory` command that did the same thing. We may still be able to use the `write mem` command, (`wr` for short):

```
1 sw1#wr
2 Building configuration...
3 Compressed configuration from 2781 bytes to 1574 bytes[OK]
4 sw1#
5 *Nov 19 08:25:12.887: %GRUB-5-CONFIG_WRITING: GRUB configuration is being updated on
↪ disk. Please wait...
6 *Nov 19 08:25:13.693: %GRUB-5-CONFIG_WRITTEN: GRUB configuration was written to disk
↪ successfully.
7 sw1#
```

Cisco however, may get rid of the `wr` command in the future, and hence it's suggested to use the `copy run star` command.