aws marketplace

Cisco Nexus

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users

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Product Recap

Cisco Nexus

Cisco Nexus Recap

Cisco Nexus delivers flexibility, scalability, and performance for data centers, offering stability and ease of management. The integration with third-party security and high port density support are key features, making it ideal for core network infrastructures.

Cisco Nexus stands out in data centers for backbone switching and network management, known for its modularity and Virtual Port Channels. Organizations value its capacity for handling large data volumes and automation capabilities. The system's redundancy features enhance reliability in complex network environments. Despite its strengths, technical support, licensing complexity, and integration require improvement. Users benefit from features like Active/Active FEX connectivity and wish for enhancements in routing support, interface usability, and documentation. Cost concerns and port overheating issues are noted, with calls for better training and simplified configurations.

What are the key features of Cisco Nexus?

- Modularity: Enables customization and upgradability.
- Virtual Port Channels (VPCs): Offers resilience and high availability.
- Virtual Routing and Forwarding (VRF): Supports routing domains within a network device.
- High Port Density: Allows connection of multiple devices in a compact space.
- Automation: Simplifies network management and operations.
- Redundancy Features: Provides network reliability and uptime.

What benefits and ROI should users expect from Cisco Nexus?

- Scalability: Supports growing network demands.
- Stability: Offers a reliable operational environment.
- Efficiency: Enhances data center connectivity and management.
- Security Integration: Works seamlessly with third-party security solutions.
- High Performance: Optimizes data handling and throughput.

In enterprise settings, Cisco Nexus is essential for switching, routing, and server connection aggregation. It's integral in spine-and-leaf architectures for scalability in multi-tenant environments, often integrated with hyper-converged technology to ensure reliable, secure server connectivity. Implementations span industries, each leveraging its strength for improved network efficiency.

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Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- "The deployment of Cisco Nexus was very straightforward."

  Fakhar Mahmood
  Sr. Network Administrator at i2c

- "The VPC feature of Cisco Nexus is great because it provides an active-active way of forwarding the traffic and avoids blocking any of the links."

  Validated user
  Global Head, Network Endpoint Connectivity at a financial services firm with 5,001-10,000 employees

- "Regarding maintaining infrastructure, we have achieved uniformity."

  Claudio Fedeli
  Systems Area References Specialist at Fondazione Poliambulanza

- "I would recommend Cisco Nexus for large enterprises and the government sector, as they can afford it."

  Mohammed Faisal Ikram
  Director at WAJDA GROUP

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"Cisco Nexus provides a reliable switching platform for our data centers."

Validated user

Sr, Manager- Network Solution Architect at a energy/utilities company with 10,001+ employees

"Cisco Nexus and Cisco Catalyst have processing power and offer good utilization of Cisco devices."

DeepakYadav1

Network Engineer at Craw Security

"The in-service software upgrade (ISSU) feature is quite valuable."

Joe Benítez

Systems Engineer at GAD Municipal de Guayaquil

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What users had to say about valuable features:

"The most valuable feature of Nexus is its high throughput with no latency. This is why most clients prefer to integrate Nexus into their data centers. It is very scalable due to the ability to configure numerous virtual switches within the same chassis. The solution is also very stable, making it highly preferable for data centers, particularly in banking. The integration capabilities with various tools for management further amplify its utilities.."

OusaidAbaz
Security Network Architect at novonordisc

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"There are no special problems at this moment. It runs efficiently. We aren't using special features on the switch.

"Regarding maintaining infrastructure, we have achieved uniformity. For us, we have a time advantage because we know the solution, and the technological refresh is easier. The advantage is approximately 20%.."

Claudio Fedeli
Systems Area References Specialist at Fondazione Poliambulanza

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The VPC feature of Cisco Nexus is great because it provides an active-active way of forwarding the traffic and avoids blocking any of the links. It also helps prevent STP loops, which is a valuable feature. Additionally, Cisco Nexus allows me to connect additional devices, such as FEX devices, when we need to extend services or connect physical servers. This capability of connecting additional factors as uplinks to Cisco Nexus is very beneficial. Overall, it has helped streamline network-related operations with its automation and API capabilities. It provides visibility and configuration options, aiding significantly in network management initiatives.

Validated user

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Global Head, Network Endpoint Connectivity at a financial services firm with 5,001-10,000 employees

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"Cisco Nexus provides a reliable switching platform for our data centers. It allows us to run dynamic routing protocols and helps improve network efficiency with features like MPLS.

Additionally, it supports integration with third-party security tools, which is advantageous for our network architecture. Security-wise, we utilize Cisco's solutions while exploring other vendor options too.."

Validated user

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Sr, Manager- Network Solution Architect at a energy/utilities company with 10,001+ employees

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"I have been recommending Cisco Nexus because it's good.

"Cisco Nexus is good to work on, but we are mostly working on Cisco core switches and edge switches.

"I would recommend Cisco Nexus for large enterprises and the government sector, as they can afford it.."

Mohammed Faisal Ikram
Director at WAJDA GROUP

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"Cisco Nexus is typically used for data centers and layer two connectivity. We do not use ACI, layer three, or any programmability, simply switching. I am currently migrating from the Nexus EX series to the Nexus FX3 series switches. I encountered an issue where different models within the same series, the 95308 DC, do not support VPC between the EX series and FX3 series. Although I asked our account manager to provide a solution for a smooth transition from the EX to FX3 series, we currently have significant work ahead of us. We need to obtain downtime from management because we have VPCs enabled with two switches per cabinet, and we need to replace these two switches with the FX3 series because the EX series is now end-of-life. I am installing them in parallel to minimize downtime. If Cisco could support VPC between the two different models of the same series, the transition would be very smooth.."

Fakhar Mahmood
Sr. Network Administrator at i2c

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Other Solutions Considered

Before Cisco Nexus, I used Cisco's earlier product, the 6500 chassis-based switches. I switched to Cisco Nexus ACI as it offered more advanced capabilities.

Validated user
Global Head, Network Endpoint Connectivity at a financial services firm with 5,001-10,000 employees

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Nowadays, many people are exploring other products like Sonic, which are white box solutions. However, larger organizations such as banks still rely on Cisco.

Validated user
Global Head, Network Endpoint Connectivity at a financial services firm with 5,001-10,000 employees

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“If compared to other platforms, Nexus stands out in switching capabilities. Palo Alto is superior for firewall solutions, however, in switching, Nexus is unmatched..”

OusaidAbaz
Security Network Architect at novonordisc

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"We have never used other solutions. We use Dell for a specific case, but it is installed by Dell for Dell machines. We don't administer these types of switches as the solution is managed by Dell, not by us.."

Claudio Fedeli
Systems Area References Specialist at Fondazione Poliambulanza

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"We transitioned from the Catalyst 2960 and the Catalyst 6500 series switches to Cisco Nexus switches, which follow our traditional spanning tree and core distribution and access layer models. We kept the same hierarchical models and did not introduce ACI or any other spine-leaf configurations, so VXLAN is not used in our model.."

Fakhar Mahmood
Sr. Network Administrator at i2c

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“We have never used other solutions. We use Dell for a specific case, but it is installed by Dell for Dell machines. We don't administer these types of switches as the solution is managed by Dell, not by us.

“We are trying this solution and want to try Radware solution for cloud WAF.

“We tried some software such as Check Point and FortiNet web..”

Claudio Fedeli
Systems Area References Specialist at Fondazione Poliambulanza

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ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

Overall, ACI has provided beneficial capabilities with software-defined code, speeding up our response times and reducing errors and incidents with automation and available APIs.

Validated user

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Global Head, Network Endpoint Connectivity at a financial services firm with 5,001-10,000 employees

"The bill of material and calculation is done while comparing Cisco Nexus with other OEMs. Cisco often provides a competitive price with significant discounts, and since it is a proven technology with well-trained resources available, it is our preferred choice.."

Validated user

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Sr, Manager- Network Solution Architect at a energy/utilities company with 10,001+ employees

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"I believe that we have seen ROI. We have been able to streamline our processes dramatically because of the way that the new architecture works. While it was a large investment, I believe that it has had a big impact on the productivity of our systems, in general.."

Andy Deshmukh
Network Engineer at a university with 10,001+ employees

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"They don't see additional revenue from it, but they do see cost savings. With the 9K in NX-OS mode, there's still a lot of touch points with them, although the support for bash and pipe can really simplify that. In an ACI mode, certainly, there are savings because of the orchestration and automation that's occurring as part of the software-defined network.."

Validated user
Pre-Sales Engineer at a tech services company with 5,001-10,000 employees

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"With the implementation of the FEX infrastructure, it is going to save us a lot of time. We are incapable of implementing new connectivity for new hardware devices without having the ability to manage multiple devices.

Besides, the ROI for this solution is that it gets me off of the audit list.."

Validated user
Sr Manager of Network and Telephony at a financial services firm with 501-1,000 employees

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"It's worth the money we're paying for Nexus. The money we paid for these equipment is well justified. All the problems disappeared when we switched to Nexus, and our data center has been very stable. We have had six or seven years without any problems with Cisco Nexus, so they are very reliable. The price is worth it.."

Joe Benítez
Systems Engineer at GAD Municipal de Guayaquil

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Use Case

"The primary use case is the implementation of the test data center integrated with ICI and some tools to manage data centers. The network architecture includes configuring the chassis of many virtual switches in the same physical chassis and connecting with management tools.."

OusaidAbaz
Security Network Architect at novonordisc

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"We use Cisco Nexus as a switching platform in all our data centers. We are running dynamic routing protocols such as OSPF, IS-IS, and BGP. On a few platforms, we also use MPLS and LDP protocols, along with MP-BGP to facilitate network efficiency.."

Validated user
Sr, Manager- Network Solution Architect at a energy/utilities company with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

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"Cisco Nexus is used in data centers with a simple Nexus OS deployment model. In our environment, we do not use programmability with Cisco Nexus. The switches are used very basically in our infrastructure.."

Fakhar Mahmood
Sr. Network Administrator at i2c

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"We are dealing with Cisco switches and Fortinet firewalls.

"I have worked with Cisco Nexus as well.

"In the field, I have been working for the last 20, 22, or 24 years.."

Mohammed Faisal Ikram
Director at WAJDA GROUP

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"I work in a cyber security company. My company handles cyber security products as a part of networking. In the networking part, my company handles routers and switches, along with the configurations related to routing and switching areas, while taking care of network troubleshooting. As a network administrator, the aforementioned areas consist of my main tasks.

My company does not get to utilize the tool for our organization's data center architecture since we don't deal in the area of data centers. The tool is useful in the area of networking.."

DeepakYadav1
Network Engineer at Craw Security

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"We are not using AWS and have never used it. We are using the interface onboard. We are using the web application and trying this solution. We want to try Radware solution for cloud WAF.

"We tried some software such as Check Point and FortiNet web, though I don't remember the exact names for these types. We are using Microsoft, Cisco Nexus, and normal products on-premises.."

Claudio Fedeli
Systems Area References Specialist at Fondazione Poliambulanza

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Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

The initial setup of Cisco Nexus, especially with ACI, was complex. Understanding the functionality and operation of ACI was a struggle. However, now that I am accustomed to it, it is manageable.

Validated user

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Global Head, Network Endpoint Connectivity at a financial services firm with 5,001-10,000 employees

"I rate the ease of setup an eight out of ten. The deployment requires two to three months. It's a heavy setup. Around three to four people were involved in the setup.."

Nitin Joshilkar

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Assistant Manager at NKGSB BANK

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"The initial setup is straightforward. One person can manage most configurations. However, depending on the size of the chassis, two people may be required for physical installation.."

OusaidAbaz
Security Network Architect at novonordisc

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"The product's initial setup phase needs one to use the user interface based on Cisco IOS CLI. The user base is the same for Cisco Nexus and Cisco Catalyst. The user interfaces offered by Cisco Nexus and Cisco Catalyst are the same.

The solution can be deployed in two to three years.."

DeepakYadav1
Network Engineer at Craw Security

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"So far, we have had an expert to take care of the setup phase in the organization. There is no need to actually hire any contractor to configure the switch. It is straightforward. As far as anybody who deals with the product gets involved in the setup phase, everything is straightforward.

For the deployment part, my company does not have the expertise to deal with it, so it is in an area where some professionals are required.."

Letarik Terefe

Read full review

Information Technology Division Director at Ethiopian Roads Administration

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"The product's initial setup phase is very easy. If a company uses SDN, which is usually used for HCI environments, then the setup phase can get a bit complex.

For deployment, you have to connect the console port to a laptop and then take care of the password setup phase before taking care of the other configurations. If your IP addresses are made local to a VPC network with high availability, you have to configure it through the console.

The solution is deployed on an on-premises model. ."

Md. Al Imran Chowdhury

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Cyber Security Analyst at Link3 Technologies

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Customer Service and Support

"The technical support team is really good. If there is any problem the support team gets to the root of the problem and provides speedy resolution to the issue.."

Yucheol Seo
IT Manager at DN Solutions

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"Regarding maintaining infrastructure, we have achieved uniformity. For us, we have a time advantage because we know the solution, and the technological refresh is easier. The advantage is approximately 20%.."

Claudio Fedeli
Systems Area References Specialist at Fondazione Poliambulanza

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"Support-wise, Cisco generally resolves problems. However, some issues require escalation to higher managerial levels for resolution. It sometimes takes time, but issues are always eventually resolved.."

Validated user
Sr, Manager- Network Solution Architect at a energy/utilities company with 10,001+ employees

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"The Technical support of Cisco is really good. It is a core switch, you require three to four hours, same business day support. They give you a good resolution within that time. They are good at troubleshooting.."

Validated user
Lead Presales at a tech services company with 1-10 employees

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"We require technical support, and they've provided assistance several times across different countries. We've found their tech support to be excellent, especially in their willingness to resolve issues promptly.

."

Michael GEgziabher
Network Administrator at Bank of Abyssinia

Read full review

"From a technical support perspective, I offer good performance and work hard on any issues related to the product or its console. I am ready to solve the problems related to the product. If I don't know how to solve an issue, then my company offers me the motivation to help me solve the problem. I have contacted Cisco's support team. I contact Cisco's support team to deal with network issues, troubleshooting parts, and configurations like switching configurations and routing configurations.."

DeepakYadav1
Network Engineer at Craw Security

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Other Advice

I recommend Cisco Nexus depending on the organization's needs. Bigger organizations, like banks or major enterprises, may benefit from implementing Cisco Nexus in their data centers. I would rate Cisco Nexus overall at seven out of ten.

Validated user
Global Head, Network Endpoint Connectivity at a financial services firm with 5,001-10,000 employees

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“Speaking about the integration process of Cisco Nexus with our company's existing network infrastructure, the tool used to show us how to become a platinum or gold partner of Cisco. Certain criteria need to be fulfilled so that one can be considered as a partner of Cisco.

I rate the tool a seven to eight out of ten..”

DeepakYadav1
Network Engineer at Craw Security

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"I can share my experience dealing with Fortinet and Cisco now.

"I have to check the technical features then; I don't remember them by heart, honestly speaking, so I need to put it to my technical guy for the interview.

"If you wish to align a detailed interview, then let's schedule a proper time for that, as I've been receiving calls continuously for the last three, four days.

"On a scale of one to ten, I rate this solution a seven.."

Mohammed Faisal Ikram
Director at WAJDA GROUP

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"Speaking about whether the product has been able to improve our company's network efficiency, I would say that the solution has been efficient in most of the cases, the reason why we use it in our data centers. For instance, we have different clusters that are expected to be in different VLANs or different network configurations. We configure the VLAN on the Cisco Nexus switch. For instance, if anybody else wants to access a specific application location that resides in specific clusters, we use Cisco Nexus' switch to separate such VLANs in a cluster, which helps us to segregate the network properly.

The product can be recommended to others based on their requirements. The product can be used in data centers or servers, but everything depends on the requirements of the users or clients.

I rate the tool a nine out of ten.."

Letarik Terefe
Information Technology Division Director at Ethiopian Roads Administration

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"The installation is handled by our partners, so this is not our concern.

"This is private information for Cisco Nexus networking.

"The solution is on-premises and stable.

"Regarding maintaining infrastructure, we have achieved uniformity. For us, we have a time advantage because we know the solution, and the technological refresh is easier.

"I rate this solution eight out of ten.."

Claudio Fedeli
Systems Area References Specialist at Fondazione Poliambulanza

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"I participated in the deployment of our core switch 9508 model, Cisco Nexus 9508.

"Dependending on the experience and the expertise, I believe a single person can deploy Cisco Nexus.

"The migration took about two or three months.

"I do not use Cisco Nexus to support multi-tenant environments.

"Regarding micro-segmentation, segmentation of the tasks on Cisco Nexus is quite useful.

"We do not use the VXLAN feature with Cisco Nexus because VXLAN is used for ACI, and we are not using ACI.

"I manage the licensing for Cisco Nexus, but the pricing is handled by a third team, the procurement team. Therefore, I have no idea about how much the cost of all the renewals and the new devices is.

"I would rate this product a nine out of ten overall.."

Fakhar Mahmood
Sr. Network Administrator at i2c

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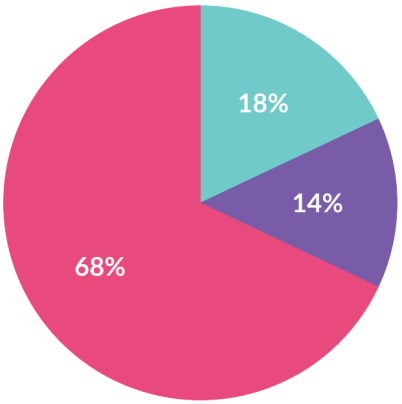
by visitors reading reviews

Outsourcing Company	15%
Manufacturing Company	10%
Construction Company	10%
Comms Service Provider	8%

Company Size

by reviewers



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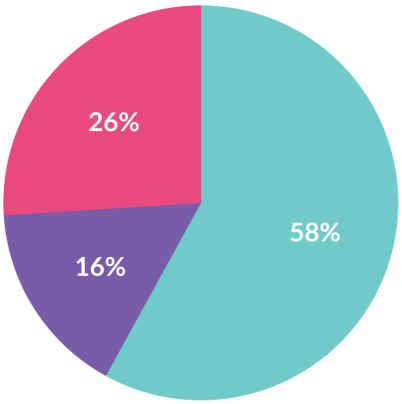

Large Enterprise Midsize Enterprise Small Business

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