

How to use an IBM 16-port KVM switch

Article Overview

An IBM 16-port KVM switch allows centralized control of up to 16 servers via a single keyboard, video, and mouse interface, with options for local or remote management.

Physical Setup

- o Rack Mount the Switch: Secure the KVM switch in your server rack using the provided brackets and screws. Ensure the switch and all connected devices are on the same power phase for stability and safety .
- o Connect Servers: Use IBM-supplied KVM cables (UCO for USB servers, KCO for PS/2 servers, or CCO for IBM C2T chains) to connect each server to the switch . Each port on the switch corresponds to one server.
- o Power and Keep Alive: The switch cables are powered directly from the servers, providing Keep Alive functionality so servers operate correctly even if the switch is off .
- o Optional Tiering: If you need to expand beyond 16 servers, you can daisy-chain additional switches using PS/2 or CAT 5 cables to increase capacity .

Connecting the Console

- o Local Access: Connect a keyboard, monitor, and mouse directly to the switch's local console port. The switch supports one or two simultaneous users depending on the model (e.g., 2x16 allows two users), .
- o Remote Access: For GCM16 or RCM models, connect the switch to your network. Use the IBM NetBAY Virtual Console software or the on-board web interface (OBWI) to access servers remotely via Ethernet .

Using the User Interface

- o OSCAR Graphical Interface: IBM console switches provide an intuitive GUI for server selection and configuration. Use the menus to select a server, switch between multiple servers, and configure port names .
- o Server Selection: Each server is assigned a unique port number. You can switch between servers using the front panel buttons, keyboard hotkeys, or the GUI interface .
- o Virtual Media and Serial Access: Some models support virtual media (VCO/VCO2 cables) and serial console access (SCO cables), allowing remote software installation or serial management .

Safety and Best Practices

- o Always power off devices before connecting or disconnecting cables unless instructed otherwise .
- o Use only IBM-supplied cables to ensure compatibility and maintain signal integrity .
- o Ensure proper grounding and polarity for all connected devices.
- o Keep cable management organized to maintain airflow and reduce clutter in the rack .

Summary



How to use an IBM 16-port KVM switch

Using an IBM 16-port KVM switch involves rack mounting, connecting servers with the appropriate cables, configuring the switch via the GUI or front panel, and optionally enabling remote access. Features like Keep Alive, virtual media, and tiering allow flexible management of multiple servers while maintaining centralized control and reducing cable complexity .

Enhance your workspace efficiency with KVM switches, the essential solution for managing multiple computers using a single

Desktop KVM Switch Selector Compare models and choose the right option for you. Desktop KVM switches are compact devices

The IBM NetBAY Console Switch family consists of the four-port single-user model and the eight-port switch, which can support up to

1x8 and 2x16 Console Switches and 3M Console Switch cables overview. The IBM 1x8, 2x16 and 4x16 Console Switches let you

Step-by-step guide to set up a KVM switch for seamless multitasking. Learn how to connect

Before you begin The bulk of KVM switch configuration is performed in manufacturing. Use the following procedures to modify the

The IBM's 1 x 8 Rack Console Switch and IBM 2 x 16 Rack Console Switch are described in this installation and user's guide. These

Setting up a KVM (Keyboard, Video, Mouse) switch allows you to control multiple computers using a single set of

The power on state of 8/16 port PS/2 KVM over IP switch: When you power on KVM switch, it will ask you the password, the default

Looking at the manual, it appears there's two different ways to use the hotkeys: - the default would be to hold Ctrl+Shift and press the

The CS1316 KVM switch allows access and control up to 256 computers from a single console (keyboard, mouse, and monitor). As

The KVM console is a quick way for you to configure and administer your virtual servers. It applies to situations where a boot failure

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This is a short guide to help you set up a KVM switch step by step and more resources are given for further reading.

What is a KVM switch? This device improves productivity, saves space, and money by allowing you to use multiple

Digital users access the RCM and all attached systems via Ethernet from a PC running the IBM NetBAY Virtual Console software.

® The IBM 1 x 8 Rack Console Switch and IBM 2 x 16 Rack Console Switch are described in this

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