

Port Security

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Prerequisites for Port Security

If you try to set the maximum value to a number less than the number of secure addresses already configured on an interface, the command is rejected.

Restrictions for Port Security

- The maximum number of secure MAC addresses that you can configure on a switch is set by the maximum number of available MAC addresses allowed in the system. This number is the total of available MAC addresses, including those used for other Layer 2 functions and any other secure MAC addresses configured on interfaces.
- Port Security is not supported on EtherChanel interfaces.
- Port Security is not supported on private VLAN ports.

Information About Port Security

Port Security

You can use the port security feature to restrict input to an interface by limiting and identifying MAC addresses of the stations allowed to access the port. When you assign secure MAC addresses to a secure port, the port does not forward packets with source addresses outside the group of defined addresses. If you limit the number of secure MAC addresses to one and assign a single secure MAC address, the workstation attached to that port is assured the full bandwidth of the port.

If a port is configured as a secure port and the maximum number of secure MAC addresses is reached, when the MAC address of a station attempting to access the port is different from any of the identified secure MAC addresses, a security violation occurs. Also, if a station with a secure MAC address configured or learned on one secure port attempts to access another secure port, a violation is flagged.

Types of Secure MAC Addresses

The switch supports these types of secure MAC addresses:

- Static secure MAC addresses—These are manually configured by using the **switchport port-security mac-address** *mac-address* interface configuration command, stored in the address table, and added to the switch running configuration.
- Dynamic secure MAC addresses—These are dynamically configured, stored only in the address table, and removed when the switch restarts.
- Sticky secure MAC addresses—These can be dynamically learned or manually configured, stored in the address table, and added to the running configuration. If these addresses are saved in the configuration file, when the switch restarts, the interface does not need to dynamically reconfigure them.

Default MAC Address Table Settings

The following table shows the default settings for the MAC address table.

Table 1: Default Settings for the MAC Address

Feature	Default Setting
Aging time	300 seconds
Dynamic addresses	Automatically learned
Static addresses	None configured

MAC Address Table Creation

With multiple MAC addresses supported on all ports, you can connect any port on the device to other network devices. The device provides dynamic addressing by learning the source address of packets it receives on each port and adding the address and its associated port number to the address table. As devices are added or removed from the network, the device updates the address table, adding new dynamic addresses and aging out those that are not in use.

The aging interval is globally configured. However, the device maintains an address table for each VLAN, and STP can accelerate the aging interval on a per-VLAN basis.

The device sends packets between any combination of ports, based on the destination address of the received packet. Using the MAC address table, the device forwards the packet only to the port associated with the destination address. If the destination address is on the port that sent the packet, the packet is filtered and not forwarded. The device always uses the store-and-forward method: complete packets are stored and checked for errors before transmission.

Sticky Secure MAC Addresses

You can configure an interface to convert the dynamic MAC addresses to sticky secure MAC addresses and to add them to the running configuration by enabling sticky learning. The interface converts all the dynamic secure MAC addresses, including those that were dynamically learned before sticky learning was enabled, to sticky secure MAC addresses. All sticky secure MAC addresses are added to the running configuration.

The sticky secure MAC addresses do not automatically become part of the configuration file, which is the startup configuration used each time the switch restarts. If you save the sticky secure MAC addresses in the configuration file, when the switch restarts, the interface does not need to relearn these addresses. If you do not save the sticky secure addresses, they are lost.

If sticky learning is disabled, the sticky secure MAC addresses are converted to dynamic secure addresses and are removed from the running configuration.

Security Violations

It is a security violation when one of these situations occurs:

- The maximum number of secure MAC addresses have been added to the address table, and a station whose MAC address is not in the address table attempts to access the interface.
- An address learned or configured on one secure interface is seen on another secure interface in the same VLAN.
- Running diagnostic tests with port security enabled.

You can configure the interface for one of three violation modes, based on the action to be taken if a violation occurs:

 protect—when the number of secure MAC addresses reaches the maximum limit allowed on the port, packets with unknown source addresses are dropped until you remove a sufficient number of secure MAC addresses to drop below the maximum value or increase the number of maximum allowable addresses. You are not notified that a security violation has occurred.



Noto

We do not recommend configuring the protect violation mode on a trunk port. The protect mode disables learning when any VLAN reaches its maximum limit, even if the port has not reached its maximum limit.

- restrict—when the number of secure MAC addresses reaches the maximum limit allowed on the port,
 packets with unknown source addresses are dropped until you remove a sufficient number of secure
 MAC addresses to drop below the maximum value or increase the number of maximum allowable
 addresses. In this mode, you are notified that a security violation has occurred. An SNMP trap is sent, a
 syslog message is logged, and the violation counter increments.
- shutdown—a port security violation causes the interface to become error-disabled and to shut down immediately, and the port LED turns off. When a secure port is in the error-disabled state, you can bring it out of this state by entering the **errdisable recovery cause** *psecure-violation* global configuration command, or you can manually re-enable it by entering the **shutdown** and **no shut down** interface configuration commands. This is the default mode.

• shutdown vlan—Use to set the security violation mode per-VLAN. In this mode, the VLAN is error disabled instead of the entire port when a violation occurs

This table shows the violation mode and the actions taken when you configure an interface for port security.

Table 2: Security Violation Mode Actions

Violation Mode	Traffic is forwarded	Sends SNMP trap	Sends syslog message	Displays error message	Violation counter increments	Shuts (
protect	No	No	No	No	No	No
restrict	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
shutdown	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
shutdown vlan	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No <u>3</u>

Packets with unknown source addresses are dropped until you remove a sufficient number of secure MAC addresses.

Port Security Aging

You can use port security aging to set the aging time for all secure addresses on a port. Two types of aging are supported per port:

- Absolute—The secure addresses on the port are deleted after the specified aging time.
- Inactivity—The secure addresses on the port are deleted only if the secure addresses are inactive for the specified aging time.

Default Port Security Configuration

Table 3: Default Port Security Configuration

Feature	Default Setting
Port security	Disabled on a port.
Sticky address learning	Disabled.
Maximum number of secure MAC addresses per port	One address
Violation mode	Shutdown. The port shuts down when the maximum number of secure MAC addresses is exceeded.

² The switch returns an error message if you manually configure an address that would cause a security violation

³ Shuts down only the VLAN on which the violation occurred.

Feature	Default Setting
Port security aging	Disabled. Aging time is 0.
	Static aging is disabled.
	Type is absolute.

Port Security Configuration Guidelines

- Port security can only be configured on static access ports or trunk ports. A secure port cannot be a dynamic access port.
- A secure port cannot be a destination port for Switched Port Analyzer (SPAN).
- Voice VLAN is only supported on access ports and not on trunk ports, even though the configuration is allowed.
- When you enable port security on an interface that is also configured with a voice VLAN, set the maximum allowed secure addresses on the port to two. When the port is connected to a Cisco IP phone, the IP phone requires one MAC address. The Cisco IP phone address is learned on the voice VLAN, but is not learned on the access VLAN. If you connect a single PC to the Cisco IP phone, no additional MAC addresses are required. If you connect more than one PC to the Cisco IP phone, you must configure enough secure addresses to allow one for each PC and one for the phone.
- When a trunk port configured with port security and assigned to an access VLAN for data traffic and to a voice VLAN for voice traffic, entering the switchport voice and switchport priority extend interface configuration commands has no effect.
 - When a connected device uses the same MAC address to request an IP address for the access VLAN and then an IP address for the voice VLAN, only the access VLAN is assigned an IP address.
- When you enter a maximum secure address value for an interface, and the new value is greater than the
 previous value, the new value overwrites the previously configured value. If the new value is less than
 the previous value and the number of configured secure addresses on the interface exceeds the new value,
 the command is rejected.
- The switch does not support port security aging of sticky secure MAC addresses.

This table summarizes port security compatibility with other port-based features.

Table 4: Port Security Compatibility with Other Switch Features

Type of Port or Feature on Port	Compatible with Port Security
DTP ⁴ port ⁵	No
Trunk port	Yes
Dynamic-access port ⁶	No
Routed port	No
SPAN source port	Yes

Type of Port or Feature on Port	Compatible with Port Security
SPAN destination port	No
EtherChannel	No
Tunneling port	Yes
Protected port	Yes
IEEE 802.1x port	Yes
Voice VLAN port ⁷	Yes
IP source guard	Yes
Dynamic Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) inspection	Yes
Flex Links	Yes

⁴ DTP=Dynamic Trunking Protocol

How to Configure Port Security

Enabling and Configuring Port Security

Before you begin

This task restricts input to an interface by limiting and identifying MAC addresses of the stations allowed to access the port:

SUMMARY STEPS

- 1. enable
- 2. configure terminal
- **3. interface** *interface-id*
- 4. switchport mode {access | trunk}
- 5. switchport voice vlan vlan-id
- 6. switchport port-security
- 7. switchport port-security [maximum value [vlan {vlan-list | {access | voice}}]]
- 8. switchport port-security violation {protect | restrict | shutdown | shutdown vlan}
- **9. switchport port-security [mac-address** *mac-address* [vlan {vlan-id | {access | voice}}]
- 10. switchport port-security mac-address sticky
- 11. switchport port-security mac-address sticky [mac-address | vlan {vlan-id | {access | voice}}]

⁵ A port configured with the **switchport mode dynamic** interface configuration command.

⁶ A VLAN Query Protocol (VQP) port configured with the **switchport access vlan dynamic** interface configuration command.

⁷ You must set the maximum allowed secure addresses on the port to two plus the maximum number of secure addresses allowed on the access VLAN.

- **12**. end
- 13. show port-security

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose	
Step 1	enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode.	
	Example:	• Enter your password if prompted.	
	Device> enable		
Step 2	configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.	
	Example:		
	Device# configure terminal		
Step 3	interface interface-id	Specifies the interface to be configured, and enter interface	
-	Example:	configuration mode.	
	Device(config) # interface gigabitethernet 1/0/1		
Step 4	switchport mode {access trunk}	Sets the interface switchport mode as access or trunk; an	
	Example:	interface in the default mode (dynamic auto) cannot configured as a secure port.	
	Device(config-if)# switchport mode access		
Step 5	switchport voice vlan vlan-id	Enables voice VLAN on a port.	
	Example:	vlan-id—Specifies the VLAN to be used for voice trans	
	Device(config-if)# switchport voice vlan 22		
Step 6	switchport port-security	Enables port security on the interface.	
	<pre>Example: Device(config-if)# switchport port-security</pre>	Note Under certain conditions, when port security is enabled on the member ports in a switch stack, the DHCP and ARP packets would be dropped. As a workaround, shutdown the interface and then configure the no shutdown command.	
Step 7	<pre>switchport port-security [maximum value [vlan {vlan-list {access voice}}]] Example: Device (config-if) # switchport port-security</pre>	(Optional) Sets the maximum number of secure MAC addresses for the interface. The maximum number of secure MAC addresses that you can configure on a switch or switch stack is set by the maximum number of available MAC addresses allowed in the system. This number is the total of available MAC addresses, including those used	

	Command or Action	Purpose
		for other Layer 2 functions and any other secure MAC addresses configured on interfaces.
		(Optional) vlan—sets a per-VLAN maximum value
		Enter one of these options after you enter the vlan keyword:
		 vlan-list—On a trunk port, you can set a per-VLAN maximum value on a range of VLANs separated by a hyphen or a series of VLANs separated by commas. For nonspecified VLANs, the per-VLAN maximum value is used.
		 access—On an access port, specifies the VLAN as an access VLAN.
		• voice—On an access port, specifies the VLAN as a voice VLAN.
		Note The voice keyword is available only if a voice VLAN is configured on a port and if that port is not the access VLAN. If an interface is configured for voice VLAN, configure a maximum of two secure MAC addresses.
Step 8	switchport port-security violation {protect restrict shutdown shutdown vlan}	(Optional) Sets the violation mode, the action to be taken when a security violation is detected, as one of these:
	<pre>Example: Device(config-if)# switchport port-security violation restrict</pre>	• protect—When the number of port secure MAC addresses reaches the maximum limit allowed on the port, packets with unknown source addresses are dropped until you remove a sufficient number of secure MAC addresses to drop below the maximum value or increase the number of maximum allowable addresses. You are not notified that a security violation has occurred.
		Note We do not recommend configuring the protect mode on a trunk port. The protect mode disables learning when any VLAN reaches its maximum limit, even if the port has not reached its maximum limit.
		• restrict—When the number of secure MAC addresses reaches the limit allowed on the port, packets with unknown source addresses are dropped until you remove a sufficient number of secure MAC addresses or increase the number of maximum allowable addresses. An SNMP trap is sent, a syslog message is logged, and the violation counter increments.

	Command or Action	Purpose	
		viola SNM	lown —The interface is error-disabled when a tion occurs, and the port LED turns off. An P trap is sent, a syslog message is logged, and iolation counter increments.
		mode	down vlan—Use to set the security violation e per VLAN. In this mode, the VLAN is error led instead of the entire port when a violation rs.
		Note	When a secure port is in the error-disabled state, you can bring it out of this state by entering the errdisable recovery cause psecure-violation global configuration command. You can manually re-enable it by entering the shutdown and no shutdown interface configuration commands or by using the clear errdisable interface vlan privileged EXEC command.
Step 9	<pre>switchport port-security [mac-address mac-address [vlan {vlan-id {access voice}}] Example: DEvice(config-if) # switchport port-security mac-address 00:A0:C7:12:C9:25 vlan 3 voice</pre>	You can use of secure I	Enters a secure MAC address for the interface. se this command to enter the maximum number MAC addresses. If you configure fewer secure resses than the maximum, the remaining MAC are dynamically learned.
		Note	If you enable sticky learning after you enter this command, the secure addresses that were dynamically learned are converted to sticky secure MAC addresses and are added to the running configuration.
		(Optional)	vlan—sets a per-VLAN maximum value.
		Enter one keyword:	of these options after you enter the vlan
		ID ar	id—On a trunk port, you can specify the VLAN and the MAC address. If you do not specify a N ID, the native VLAN is used.
			ss—On an access port, specifies the VLAN as cess VLAN.
			—On an access port, specifies the VLAN as a VLAN.

	Command or Action	Purpose		
		Note The voice keyword is available only if a voice VLAN is configured on a port and if that port is not the access VLAN. If an interface is configured for voice VLAN, configure a maximum of two secure MAC addresses.		
Step 10	switchport port-security mac-address sticky	(Optional) Enables sticky learning on the interface.		
	Example:			
	Device(config-if)# switchport port-security mac-address sticky			
Step 11	switchport port-security mac-address sticky [mac-address vlan {vlan-id {access voice}}]	(Optional) Enters a sticky secure MAC address, repeating		
	Example:	the command as many times as necessary. If you configur fewer secure MAC addresses than the maximum, the remaining MAC addresses are dynamically learned, are converted to sticky secure MAC addresses, and are adde		
	Device(config-if)# switchport port-security mac-address sticky 00:A0:C7:12:C9:25 vlan voice	to the running configuration.		
		Note If you do not enable sticky learning before this command is entered, an error message appears, and you cannot enter a sticky secure MAC address.		
		(Optional) vlan—sets a per-VLAN maximum value.		
		Enter one of these options after you enter the vlan keyword:		
		• <i>vlan-id</i> —On a trunk port, you can specify the VLAN ID and the MAC address. If you do not specify a VLAN ID, the native VLAN is used.		
		• access—On an access port, specifies the VLAN as an access VLAN.		
		• voice—On an access port, specifies the VLAN as a voice VLAN.		
		Note The voice keyword is available only if a voice VLAN is configured on a port and if that port is not the access VLAN.		
Step 12	end	Exits interface configuration mode and returns to privileged		
	Example:	EXEC mode.		
	Device(config-if)# end			
Step 13	show port-security	Displays information about the port-security settings.		
	Example:			

Command or Action	Purpose
Device# show port-security	

Enabling and Configuring Port Security Aging

Use this feature to remove and add devices on a secure port without manually deleting the existing secure MAC addresses and to still limit the number of secure addresses on a port. You can enable or disable the aging of secure addresses on a per-port basis.

SUMMARY STEPS

- 1. enable
- 2. configure terminal
- 3. interface interface-id
- **4.** switchport port-security aging {static | time time | type {absolute | inactivity}}
- 5. end
- **6.** show port-security [interface interface-id] [address]

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose	
Step 1	enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode.	
	Example:	• Enter your password if prompted.	
	Device> enable		
Step 2	configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.	
	Example:		
	Device# configure terminal		
Step 3	interface interface-id	Specifies the interface to be configured, and enter inter	
	Example:	configuration mode.	
	Device(config)# interface gigabitethernet1/0/1		
Step 4	switchport port-security aging {static time time type {absolute inactivity}}	Enables or disable static aging for the secure port, or set the aging time or type.	
	Example:	Note The switch does not support port security aging of sticky secure addresses.	
	Device(config-if)# switchport port-security aging time 120	Enter static to enable aging for statically configured secure addresses on this port.	

	Command or Action	Purpose	
		For <i>time</i> , specifies the aging time for this port. The valid range is from 0 to 1440 minutes.	
		For type , select one of these keywords:	
		• absolute—Sets the aging type as absolute aging. All the secure addresses on this port age out exactly after the time (minutes) specified lapses and are removed from the secure address list.	
		• inactivity—Sets the aging type as inactivity aging. The secure addresses on this port age out only if there is no data traffic from the secure source addresses for the specified time period.	
Step 5	end	Exits interface configuration mode and returns to privilege	
Example:	Example:	EXEC mode.	
	Device(config-if)# end		
Step 6	show port-security [interface interface-id] [address] Example:	Displays information about the port-security settings on the specified interface.	
	Device# show port-security interface gigabitethernet1/0/1		

Changing the Address Aging Time

Follow these steps to configure the dynamic address table aging time:

SUMMARY STEPS

- 1. enable
- 2. configure terminal
- 3. mac address-table aging-time $[0 \mid 10-1000000]$ [routed-mac | vlan vlan-id]
- **4**. end

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode.
	Example:	Enter your password if prompted.
	Device> enable	
Step 2	configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
	Example:	

	Command or Action	Purpose
	Device# configure terminal	
Step 3	mac address-table aging-time [0 10-1000000] [routed-mac vlan vlan-id]	Sets the length of time that a dynamic entry remains in the MAC address table after the entry is used or updated.
	Example: Device(config) # mac address-table aging-time 500 vlan 2	The range is 10 to 1000000 seconds. The default is 300. You can also enter 0, which disables aging. Static address entries are never aged or removed from the table. <i>vlan-id</i> —Valid IDs are 1 to 4094.
Step 4	<pre>end Example: Device(config)# end</pre>	Exits global configuration mode and returns to privileged EXEC mode.

Monitoring Port Security

This table displays port security information.

Table 5: Commands for Displaying Port Security Status and Configuration

Command	Purpose
show port-security [interface interface-id]	Displays port security settings for the device or for the speci including the maximum allowed number of secure MAC ac each interface, the number of secure MAC addresses on the number of security violations that have occurred, and the vi
show port-security [interface interface-id] address	Displays all secure MAC addresses configured on all device on a specified interface with aging information for each add
show port-security interface interface-id vlan	Displays the number of secure MAC addresses configured the specified interface.

Configuration Examples for Port Security

This example shows how to enable port security on a port and to set the maximum number of secure addresses to 50. The violation mode is the default, no static secure MAC addresses are configured, and sticky learning is enabled.

```
Device> enable
Device# configure terminal
Device(config)# interface gigabitethernet1/0/1
Device(config-if)# switchport mode access
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security maximum 50
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security mac-address sticky
Device(config-if)# end
```

This example shows how to configure a static secure MAC address on VLAN 3 on a port:

```
Device> enable
Device# configure terminal
Device(config)# interface gigabitethernet1/0/2
Device(config-if)# switchport mode trunk
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security mac-address 0000.0200.0004 vlan 3
Device(config-if)# end
```

This example shows how to enable sticky port security on a port, to manually configure MAC addresses for data VLAN and voice VLAN, and to set the total maximum number of secure addresses to 20 (10 for data VLAN and 10 for voice VLAN).

```
Device> enable
Device# configure terminal
Device (config) # interface tengigabitethernet1/0/1
Device(config-if) # switchport access vlan 21
Device(config-if)# switchport mode access
Device (config-if) # switchport voice vlan 22
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security
Device (config-if) # switchport port-security maximum 20
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security violation restrict
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security mac-address sticky
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security mac-address sticky 0000.0000.0002
Device (config-if) # switchport port-security mac-address 0000.0000.0003
Device (config-if) # switchport port-security mac-address sticky 0000.0000.0001 vlan voice
Device (config-if) # switchport port-security mac-address 0000.0000.0004 vlan voice
Device(config-if) # switchport port-security maximum 10 vlan access
Device(config-if)# switchport port-security maximum 10 vlan voice
Device(config-if)# end
```

Feature History for Port Security

This table provides release and related information for features explained in this module.

These features are available on all releases subsequent to the one they were introduced in, unless noted otherwise.

Release	Feature	Feature Information
Cisco IOS XE Everest 16.5.1a	Port Security	The Port Security feature restricts input to an interface by limiting and identifying MAC addresses of the stations allowed to access the port.
		Support for this feature was introduced on all the models of the Cisco Catalyst 9500 Series Switches.
Cisco IOS XE Fuji 16.8.1a	Port Security	Support for this feature was introduced on the C9500-32C, C9500-32QC, C9500-48Y4C, and C9500-24Y4C models of the Cisco Catalyst 9500 Series Switches.
Cisco IOS XE Everest 16.5.1a	Port Security MAC Aging	When devices are added or removed from a network, the device updates the address table, adding new dynamic addresses and aging out those that are not in use.
		Support for this feature was introduced on all the models of the Cisco Catalyst 9500 Series Switches.

Release	Feature	Feature Information
Cisco IOS XE Fuji 16.8.1a	Aging	Support for this feature was introduced on the C9500-32C, C9500-32QC, C9500-48Y4C, and C9500-24Y4C models of the Cisco Catalyst 9500 Series Switches.

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform and software image support. To access Cisco Feature Navigator, go to http://www.cisco.com/go/cfn.

Feature History for Port Security