

HPE Aruba Networking Switching Associate Exam

Exam description

This exam tests your understanding in configuring and managing modern, open standard-based networking solutions using HPE Aruba Networking OS-CX routing and switching technologies. It also verifies your fundamental knowledge of implementing and validating small to medium-enterprise network solutions.

Ideal candidate for this exam

Typical candidates for this exam are HPE customers, partners, and team members with at least six months of experience working as a junior team member who supports and maintains wired networks or works independently on limited-scope projects.

Examples of job roles include network operator, tier 1/2 support, support technician, field technician, and network administrator.

Exam contents

This exam has 60 questions.

Advice to help you take this exam

- Complete the training and review all course materials and documents before you take the exam.
- Exam items are based on expected knowledge acquired from job experience, an expected level of industry standard knowledge, or other prerequisites (events, supplemental materials, etc.).
- Successful completion of the course or study materials alone, does not ensure you will pass the exam.

Additional study materials

- HPE Aruba Networking Certified Associate – Switching Study Guide (HPE6-A86)

Objectives

This exam validates that you can:

Exam ID	HPE6-A86
Exam type	Proctored
Exam duration	1 hour 30 minutes
Exam length	60 questions
Passing score	73%
Delivery languages	English
Register for this Exam You need an HPE Learner ID and a Pearson VUE login and password. No reference material is allowed at the testing site. This exam may contain beta test items for experimental purposes. During the exam, you can make comments about the exam items. We welcome these comments as part of our continuous improvement process.	

Percentage of Exam	Sections/Objectives
24%	1. Identify, describe, and apply foundational networking architectures and technologies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Describe and explain the OSI Model. (2%) 1.2 Describe and explain the most common layer media (Layer 1). (2%) 1.3 Describe the basics of Layer 2 Ethernet, including broadcast domains. (3%) 1.4 Describe the basics of Layer 3 addressing, including subnetting, ARP, and routing. (4%) 1.5 Define and recognize the purpose and interaction of Layer 4 (Transport) protocols in an IP network. (1%) 1.6 Identify the role of various network management protocols such as TFTP, SFTP, FTP, Telnet, and SNMPv2 (2%) 1.7 Identify and describe the concept of QoS and explain its significance in converged networks. (1%) 1.8 Describe and explain the basic network security setup on HPE Aruba Networking switches. (2%) 1.9 Describe Layer 2 redundancy technologies such as STP/RSTP and VSF, including their benefits. (2%) 1.10 Describe and apply link aggregation. (2%) 1.11 Identify, describe, and explain VLANs (3%)
21%	2. Identify, describe, and differentiate HPE Aruba Networking products' and solutions' functions and features. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Identify basic features and management options for HPE Aruba Networking wired products (5%) 2.2 Identify the software capabilities and differentiators in the HPE Networking switching product line (6%) 2.3 Identify the hardware capabilities and differentiators in the HPE Networking switching product line (5%) 2.4 Identify and describe available tool sets for managing HPE Aruba Networking products (CLI-based, web, scripted, SNMP, Aruba Central, mobile app, and API). (5%)
22%	3. Install, configure, set up, and validate wired network solutions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Configure basic features on HPE Aruba Networking switches, including initial settings and management access. (7%) 3.2 Configure HPE Aruba Networking switches with Layer 2 technologies such as RSTP/MSTP, link aggregation, VLANs, and LLDP. (6%) 3.3 Configure HPE Aruba Networking switches with Layer 3 technologies including IP addressing, routing (5%) 3.4 Validate the installed solution via show commands. (4%)
17%	4. Troubleshoot, operate, and maintain HPE Aruba Networking solutions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Troubleshoot switched and routed networks. (10%) 4.2 Use general troubleshooting tools. (7%)
16%	5. Manage and monitor HPE Aruba Networking solutions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1 Perform network management and administrative tasks according to best practices. (16%)

For more information

Contact our program

© Copyright 2025 Hewlett Packard Enterprise. The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. The only warranties for HPE products and services are set forth in the express warranty statements accompanying such products and services. Nothing herein should be construed as constituting an additional warranty. HPE shall not be liable for technical or editorial errors or omissions contained herein.

Information is as of December 2024, Revision 1