

Server Switch Undone
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I chose a Netgear Prosafe m4100-26g server switch because it was new to me, and I wanted to learn more about servers and how they worked. I also chose this because my school had a recently decommissioned switch that I could use.

Inside the switch, I saw an input-output (I/O) board, which provides video data, a power supply that provides power to the rest of the machine via direct current, there was a motherboard that provides instructions to the rest of the machine, some CPUs on the motherboard which gave the motherboard the processing capability that it needs to do its job, some capacitors that would temporarily store a charge and distribute it, resistors to prevent too much electricity from building up, a fuse so that if the resistors failed, then the machine would stop working, heatsinks to keep the machine from overheating, two fans to keep the device cool, and twenty-four ethernet ports.

While exploring this server switch, I learned about the components that make up different computer pieces, i.e., a power supply has resistors, capacitors, fuses, and heatsinks, among other parts. There were more heatsinks and capacitors on the motherboard, but there were also CPUs, data cable ports, power cable ports, and other connections, such as to the fans.

