

- **show config**—Displays the last saved configuration.
- **show version**—Displays information about the system hardware and software.
- **show interfaces**—Displays information on connections and ports that connect with other devices.

Starting a Switch Summary

- The Catalyst status LEDs are generally green when the switch is functioning and amber when there is a malfunction.
- Port LEDs are green during the POST. The power LED remains green when the test is complete. All other LEDs go off after the test completes unless there is a malfunction.
- After a successful POST, the Menu Console logon screen appears. From here, you can enter three different modes: menu (M), command-line (K), or IP configuration (I).
- The CLI has several help commands, including **?** and **show**.

Starting a Router

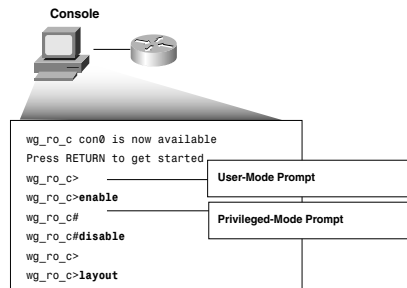
When a Cisco router is started for the first time, it does not have an initial configuration. The router prompts the user for a minimum of details. This basic setup is not intended for entering complex configurations or protocol features. The **setup** command gives you the following options:

- Go to the EXEC prompt without saving the created configuration
- Go back to the beginning of setup without saving the created configuration
- Accept the created configuration, save it to NVRAM, and exit to EXEC mode

Default answers appear in square brackets ([]). You can accept the defaults by pressing the Return key. At the first setup prompt, you can enter **no** to discontinue setup. You can abort the setup process at any time by pressing Ctrl-C.

Access Levels

User EXEC level provides a limited number of basic commands.



Privileged EXEC (enable mode) level gives you access to all router commands. This level can be password-protected. The **enable** command gives you access to this mode. (**disable** takes you back to user mode.)

Console Error Messages

When you enter an incorrect command, you receive one of the following messages:

Error Message	Meaning	How to Get Help
% Ambiguous command: show con	Not enough characters were entered to define a specific command.	Reenter the command followed by a question mark (?) with no space between the command and the question mark.
% Incomplete command	Keywords or values are missing.	Reenter the command followed by a question mark with a space between the command and the question mark.
% Invalid input detected at caret marker	The command was entered incorrectly. The caret marks the point of the error.	Enter a question mark to display all the commands or parameters that are available in this mode.

History Buffer

The command history lets you review previously entered commands. This buffer defaults to ten lines, but you can configure it to a maximum of 256 lines using the **history size** command:

- **terminal history size lines**—Sets the session command buffer size
- **history size line**—Sets the buffer size permanently
- **show history**—Shows the command buffer contents

CLI Editing Sequences

The Cisco IOS Software gives you shortcuts to speed the editing process.

Command	Action
Ctrl-A	Moves the cursor to the beginning of the line
Ctrl-E	Moves the cursor to the end of the line
Esc-B	Moves the cursor back one word