

Do I still need to buy cables if I have a KVM switch



Overview

Standard KVM switches: Use standard video (such as HDMI, DisplayPort, or DVI) and USB or PS/2 cables. These cables can be purchased individually or as bundled kits for convenience. Each computer connects to the KVM via a dedicated cable bundle that typically includes a VGA/DVI/HDMI connector for video, and a USB or PS/2 connector for keyboard and mouse data. The issue arises because many older or even some modern KVM switches rely on proprietary all-in-one cables that combine. When setting up a KVM (Keyboard, Video, Mouse) switch, it's essential to understand that the type and number of cables required depend on the specific KVM model and its configuration. KVMs vary based on the number of ports, the type of video connections, and the number of monitors they support. I don't know much about KVM's so please forgive me. I am not sure if I have all the proper cables to get it working (just ordered it, in transit). I was hoping someone can weigh in with any missing. I am currently using display cables to my dual screen setup from my PC, with the usual keyboard, mouse, microphone and speakers through USB and aux/microphone. Now that I need to use my work laptop I want to keep utilising the screens I have as it's much better with a dual display. Whether you're managing a data center, troubleshooting network.

Article Content

A Comprehensive Guide to KVM Cables | RS

Essentially, KVM cables enable users to control several computers or servers using a single set of peripherals, including keyboard, mouse, and monitor. Think of KVM cables as the

Article: Which cables do I need to setup my KVM?

When setting up a KVM (Keyboard, Video, Mouse) switch, it's essential to understand that the type and number of cables required depend on the specific KVM model and its configuration.

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Common Multi-Monitor Display Problems Let's understand some common symptoms you may experience with multiple monitors such a dual monitor, three or four monitors: One or more monitors

So You Can't Find a KVM Cable? Here Are Your Best Alternatives

Many contemporary KVM switches, especially those designed for DisplayPort or HDMI, simply use standard, off-the-shelf display and USB cables. If your current KVM requires proprietary

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You'll learn which specifications matter for your setup, whether you prioritize gaming performance, need extended desktop space, or manage multiple systems. Practical sections cover

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Don't Buy the Wrong Apple Pencil in 2026: Every Model Compared + the Best Alternatives If you're trying to buy a stylus for your iPad in 2026, the biggest problem is not that there

A Comprehensive Guide to KVM Cables | RS

Master KVM cables with our concise guide! Learn how they work, choose the right type, and optimize your setup. Perfect for beginners and pros alike!

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Building your first home server can transform how you store data, stream media, and manage your digital life. Whether you're looking to create a personal cloud storage system, set up a

How to Use Two Computers With One Display Monitor

If you have a monitor like that, you can set it up to display two computers on one monitor. Google your exact monitor model for instructions on how to do so.

Question

Include the KVM switch ports. KVM's are available in all sorts of configurations. If the required configuration is not directly available then a custom (aka expensive) KVM may be needed....

Refresh Rate Test

Test your monitor's actual refresh rate in real-time. Instantly detect if your display runs at 60Hz, 120Hz, 144Hz, or 240Hz with frame timing.

Interfaces for KVM Switch: A Comprehensive Guide

Explore key interface recommendations for selecting the perfect KVM Switch for your needs. This detailed guide covers everything from legacy PS/2 ports to cutting-edge DisplayPort

KVM vs USB Switch : r/buildapc

At first, I thought the easiest solution would be to buy a HDMI splitter and use that in conjunction with a USB switch, however, I can't find a product that also lets you plug in a microphone and speaker.

The Electrical Supplies That Future-Proof Your KVM Setup

When you move from a single desk experiment to a serious multi system KVM environment, you quickly realize you need more than random cables and a consumer switch. This is

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What's a KVM switch? The pros, cons, and why you might need one

That nearly replicates the KVM switch experience, and if that's all you need, then that's fine. But what if you have a premium keyboard and mouse with wired USB connections?

KVM cables ok?

Each display has a dedicated connection back to the device powering the display. So your laptop will need to route some of the displays via an active HDMI to dp adapter or a thunderbolt dock.

Everything You Should Know Before Buying a KVM Switch

Do you already understand KVM, or are you still unsure of how to connect to a KVM switch? Here, some of the most frequently asked questions about KVM switches will be covered.

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