

# VPN Connections

## Glossary

### Product Documentation



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## Customer Gateway

A customer gateway is a VPC gateway that is mapped to the IPsec VPN gateway in your IDC. It must be used with a VPN gateway. Encrypted VPN tunnels can be established between a VPN gateway and multiple customer gateways.

## IPsec VPN

An IPsec VPN is an encrypted tunnel over a public network that is used to connect your IDC and a VPC.

## Route Table

A [route table](#) consists of a series of routing policies that are used to define the traffic direction of each subnet within the VPC. A subnet can be associated with only one route table, but a route table can be associated with multiple subnets in the same VPC.

## Routing Policy

A [routing policy](#) defines a path that network traffic goes through. Each routing policy comprises three parameters:

1. Destination: Describes the destination IP range. The destination cannot be an IP range in the VPC where the route table resides.
2. Next hop type: Specifies the next hop type for a VPC, for example, **Public Gateway**, **VPN Gateway**, or **Direct Connect Gateway**. You must create such a gateway before you select the next hop type.
3. Next hop: Specifies the next hop gateway to which the traffic of a subnet associated with the route table will be directed.

## VPC

A Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) is a separate network space in Tencent Cloud, which is similar to a traditional network running in your IDC. However, the services hosted in a VPC are your Tencent Cloud services, including: [Cloud Virtual Machine \(CVM\)](#), [Cloud Load Balancer](#), and [TencentDB](#). You do not need to worry about the procurement and OPS of network devices, but can customize IP ranges, IP addresses, and routing policies by using software. You can use [EIPs](#), [NAT gateways](#), and [public gateways](#) to flexibly access the Internet or connect a VPC to your IDC through [VPN](#) or [Direct Connect](#). In addition, by using the [peering connections](#) of a Tencent Cloud VPC, you can easily provide a unified server for global access and three IDCs in two regions for disaster recovery. You can also use the [security groups](#) and [network ACLs](#) of the VPC to ensure comprehensive network security.

## VPN Gateway

A [VPN gateway](#) is an IPsec VPN gateway in a VPC. It is used with a customer gateway (the IPsec VPN gateway in your IDC) to enable secure and reliable encrypted network communication between the VPC and your IDC.

## VPN Tunnel

A [VPN tunnel](#) is an encrypted IPsec VPN tunnel over a public network. After the VPN gateway and customer gateway are created, a VPN tunnel can be established for encrypted communication between the VPC and your IDC.

## Subnet

A [subnet](#) is an IP range that is flexibly planned in a VPC. Applications and services can be deployed in different subnets to securely and flexibly host multi-layer web applications in the VPC.