

Cisco CCNP Enterprise (350-401 ENCOR) Cheat Sheet

One-page cram sheet for architecture, infrastructure, assurance, security, and automation in enterprise networks.

Best for Last review before drills or exam day	Focus Core ENCOR ideas + validation logic + exam shortcuts	Use with Use with ports sheet and commands sheet
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1. Architecture + virtualization

Dual-stack design	Be comfortable with IPv4/IPv6 together, address planning, transition awareness, and routing implications.
Virtualization	Know VRF, device virtualization ideas, hypervisors, containers, and where overlays fit enterprise design.
Campus / WAN / branch roles	Core, distribution, access, SD-WAN, and enterprise edge questions often blend architecture with operations.
Wireless architecture	Controller-based WLAN, AP modes, roaming, and enterprise wireless integration remain high-yield.

2. Infrastructure

Advanced switching	STP variants, EtherChannel, first-hop redundancy, multicast basics, and device-level verification matter.
Routing depth	OSPF, EIGRP concepts, BGP awareness, redistribution ideas, route selection, and policy control are fair game.
QoS	Classification, marking, queuing, shaping, policing, and voice/video treatment are more important than memorizing every knob.
High availability	Redundant links, HSRP/VRRP concepts, fast convergence, and failure domains show up often.

3. Network assurance

Telemetry + logs	SNMP, syslog, model-driven telemetry, NetFlow-style visibility, and baselines support assurance questions.
Troubleshooting method	Work layer by layer, validate assumptions, compare intended state with actual state, then isolate change impact.
Monitoring sources	CLI checks, packet captures, wireless metrics, and controller dashboards can all be the best answer depending on context.
Performance symptoms	Jitter, latency, drops, CRC errors, duplex mismatch, and queueing behavior should be recognizable fast.

4. Security

Secure management	Prefer SSH, AAA, encrypted services, RBAC, and centralized authentication/authorization.
Segmentation	ACLs, VRFs, firewalls, trust boundaries, and least-privilege routing decisions reduce blast radius.
Layer 2 protections	Think DHCP snooping, DAI, port security, BPDU guard, and storm control.
Wireless security	802.1X, WPA2/WPA3 enterprise, guest isolation, and controller-driven policy are recurring themes.

5. Automation

JSON / YAML / APIs	Know structure and use cases rather than deep programming theory.
REST / controller concepts	Cisco DNA Center and API-based workflows matter as operations abstractions.
Automation tools	Python, Ansible, templates, and data models are expected at awareness-to-practical level.
Intent vs device-by-device	Automation questions often test scalability, consistency, and faster rollback/validation.
