

Fiber Optic Patch Cord Types and Prices



Overview

Fiber Optic Patch Cables: The Complete 2026 Buyer's Guide Confused by LC, SC, MPO, UPC, and APC?

This complete fiber optic patch cable guide covers connecto.

Key Takeaways

Fiber optic patch cord prices vary widely, typically ranging from \$5 to \$50 per unit depending on fiber type, connector type, length, and additional features like armoring or bend-insensitivity. Price Ranges by Patch Cord Type

- Single-mode patch cords (OS1/OS2): Designed for long-distance applications, usually with LC or SC connectors. Prices typically range from \$5 to \$20 for standard 1-3 meter cords, with longer lengths or premium connectors increasing costs .
- Multimode patch cords (OM1-OM5): Used for shorter distances, often with LC, SC, or ST connectors. Standard 1-3 meter cords cost around \$5-\$15, with OM4/OM5 or specialized mode-conditioning cables costing more .
- Armored patch cords: Include a protective metal layer for harsh environments. These can cost \$15-\$50 per cord, depending on length and connector type .
- Bend-insensitive patch cords: Designed to minimize signal loss from bending, typically priced \$10-\$30 for standard lengths .
- Uniboot patch cords: Feature a single boot for both connectors, simplifying high-density installations. Prices generally range \$10-\$25 .

- Mode-conditioning patch cords: Used in Gigabit Ethernet to correct modal dispersion, costing \$15–\$35 depending on fiber type and length .

Factors Affecting Price

- Connector Type: LC, SC, ST, MPO/MTP, and E2000 connectors vary in cost due to precision alignment and polishing requirements. MPO/MTP connectors for multi-fiber cores are more expensive .
- Cable Length: Prices increase linearly with length, but bulk orders often reduce per-meter cost .
- Fiber Type: Single-mode fibers (OS1/OS2) for long distances are generally more expensive than multimode fibers (OM1–OM5) for short distances .
- Jacket Material: LSZH (Low Smoke Zero Halogen) jackets for data centers or public buildings cost more than standard PVC .
- Bulk Orders and OEM Customization: Ordering in bulk or without custom logos can significantly reduce unit costs, while custom labeling or testing adds \$30–\$100 setup costs .

Practical Considerations

- Data Centers: LC duplex or MPO breakout cords are common for intra-rack and inter-rack connections .
- FTTH Installations: Indoor-outdoor transition cords connect outside plant to customer premises, often requiring LSZH or armored cables .
- High-Density Environments: Uniboot or bend-insensitive cords simplify cable management and reduce insertion loss . By considering fiber type, connector type, length, and environmental requirements, you can select the most cost-effective patch cord while ensuring reliable performance for your network.

Article Content

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It is composed of a fiber optic cable terminated with different connectors on the ends. FiberMart provides various types of fiber optic

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