

Striped fiber optic cable



Overview

In this instructional video, Bob Licari, Test Equipment Product Manager, demonstrates a simple way to strip optical fiber.

Key Takeaways

Striped fiber optic cables use color-coded or striped fibers to identify individual strands within a multi-fiber cable, ensuring accurate installation, splicing, and maintenance. What Are Striped Fiber Optic Cables?

Striped fiber optic cables contain multiple optical fibers, each marked with a color or stripe pattern to distinguish them from one another. This is essential in high-density installations where dozens or hundreds of fibers are bundled together. The stripes or colors follow the TIA/EIA-598-C standard, which provides a universal 12-color sequence: Blue, Orange, Green, Brown, Slate (Gray), White, Red, Black, Yellow, Violet, Rose, and Aqua. For cables with more than 12 fibers, the sequence repeats with additional stripes to maintain unique identification .

Purpose of Stripes

- Error Reduction: Stripes prevent miswiring and mis-splicing in complex networks .
- Operational Safety: Technicians can quickly identify fibers, reducing the risk of accidental damage .
- Global Consistency: Standardized color coding allows technicians worldwide to interpret fiber positions correctly .

Stripping Striped Fiber Optic Cables

Proper stripping is critical to avoid damaging the fiber:

- **Tools:** Use fiber strippers designed for the specific buffer diameter (e.g., 250 µm primary buffer, 900 µm tight buffer) and aramid yarn (Kevlar) strength members .
- **Technique:** Strip the outer jacket first, then the aramid yarn, and finally the buffer layers in small increments to prevent stress or nicks in the glass fiber .
- **Cleaning:** After stripping, clean the fiber with a lint-free wipe and alcohol to remove residues .
- **Inspection:** Perform a bend test or visual inspection to ensure no micro-cracks or scratches are present, which could compromise the fiber's integrity .

High-Density and Multi-Fiber Cables

For cables with more than 12 fibers, a tube-and-fiber system is used. Each tube contains up to 12 fibers, and the 12-color sequence is applied both to the tube and the fibers inside. For example, fiber #34 in a 48-fiber cable would be the 10th fiber (Violet) in the 3rd tube (Green), .

Summary

Striped fiber optic cables are essential for efficient, safe, and accurate fiber management in modern networks. Understanding the color code, using proper stripping tools, and following careful handling procedures ensures reliable performance and reduces costly errors during installation or maintenance .

Article Content

Fiber U Lesson Plan: Basic Fiber Optic Skills Lab

In this lesson, we will identify and examine cables, then prepare them for splicing or termination by stripping the cable to expose the

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In this instructional video, Bob Licari, Test Equipment Product Manager, demonstrates a simple way to strip optical fiber.

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How to Properly Strip, Cut, and Test Fiber Optic Cables? In fiber optic installations, precision is critical to maintaining optimal signal

Ultimate Guide: Fibre Optic Cable Stripping and Preparation

Introduction: Stripping and preparing fibre optic cables for termination is a critical step in the installation and

What Do All The Colors Mean? Fiber Optic Color Code Explained

Fiber optic cable color code is a system that helps us distinguish fiber types visually from the colored fiber jacket,

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Color Code Guide For Fiber Optic Specifications

General Information Prysmian uses the US industry standard repeating 12-color sequence. When cables go beyond 12 units, the

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Whether it is indoor or outdoor fiber-optic (FO) cable, using a step-by-step approach reduces the chance of fiber

Color Codes and Counting Directions for Fiber Optic Cables

About Color Code Systems Fibers, tubes and ribbons in fiber optic cables are marked with different colors and bar codes to facilitate

Good stripping techniques for your fiber optic cable ...

Without question, good stripping techniques in your fiber optic cable assembly process are imperative. What happens if you damage

Color Arrangement Rules For Optical Fiber

For large fiber counts, tubes or fibers may also have additional markings, such as stripes or rings, to avoid confusion.

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Good stripping techniques for your fiber optic cable ...

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