

How to perform optical cable stripping



Overview

Discover the importance of proper fiber cable stripping techniques and tools, including the Fusion Splicer.

Key Takeaways

Optical cable stripping involves carefully removing the outer jacket, strength members, and buffer coatings to expose the fiber for termination or splicing, using specialized tools and precise techniques. Preparation and Safety

Before starting, ensure a clean, well-lit workspace free of dust and debris. Wear safety glasses to protect your eyes from fiber shards, and have alcohol wipes or cleaning solution ready for cleaning the fiber ends . Inspect the cable for kinks, bends, or damage before proceeding .

Tools Required

- Fiber Optic Strippers: Designed to remove buffer coatings without damaging the glass fiber. Options include hand-held, rotary, or heated strippers .
- Fiber Cleaver: For creating a clean, perpendicular end face on the stripped fiber .
- Microscope or Visual Fault Locator (VFL): To inspect the cleaved fiber for defects .
- Alcohol wipes or cleaning solution: To remove debris and residue .

Step-by-Step Stripping Process

- Strip the Outer Jacket: Use a jacket stripper to remove the outer protective layer. For multi-layer cables, strip each layer progressively—first the jacket, then aramid yarn or strength members, and finally the buffer coating .

- **Remove Strength Members:** Carefully cut or pull out aramid yarns or other reinforcing fibers without nicking the optical fiber .
- **Strip the Buffer Coating:** Use a fiber optic stripper adjusted to the correct blade depth for the fiber diameter. Remove the primary buffer coating (typically 250 µm) to expose the glass fiber .
- **Clean the Fiber:** Wipe the stripped fiber with alcohol or a cleaning solution to remove dust, debris, or residue .
- **Cleave the Fiber:** Use a fiber cleaver to create a smooth, perpendicular end face. Proper cleaving ensures optimal signal transmission and reduces the risk of connection failure .
- **Inspect the Fiber:** Examine the cleaved fiber under a microscope or with a VFL to ensure it is free of nicks, cracks, or irregularities .

Tips and Best Practices

- Do not touch the glass fiber with the stripper blade; this can cause micro-cracks and eventual failure .
- Maintain consistent stripping lengths for multiple fibers in a cable to ensure uniform termination .
- Use the correct tool for each layer; automated strippers can improve consistency and reduce operator error .
- Dispose of fiber scraps safely to prevent injury . By following these steps and using the proper tools, you can safely and effectively strip optical cables, ensuring clean fiber ends for reliable splicing or connectorization.

Article Content

Essential Tools for Stripping Fiber Cable: A Comprehensive Guide

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In this informative guide, we'll walk you through the step-by-step process of stripping and preparing fibre optic cable

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Good fiber optic stripping techniques in your cable assembly process are crucial. See best

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If the blade of the strip tool contacts the bare fiber, it's easy to scratch the fiber OD, reducing product reliability. Click

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A fiber stripper is a precision tool used to remove the protective polymer fiber coatings from an optical fiber. This process exposes

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Strip the jacket, cladding and other protective layers of the fiber optic cable until you can see the bare fiber. Cleave the

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About this item INDUSTRY PROVEN DESIGN: Our Fiber Cable Stripping tool is field tested to deliver consistent performance. Ideal

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Notice the difference between the two types of fiber. Stripping and cleaving optical fiber We will also learn some skills

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While this guide provides a solid overview of fiber optic cable splicing, the successful execution of these methods

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Fiber Optic Connector Termination Overview It was not long ago that the proper methods used to terminate fiber optic connectors

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