

What is the connector for a pigtail called



Overview

Discover the ultimate guide to pigtail connectors: types, applications, and best practices for electronics manufacturing.

Key Takeaways

A pigtail connector is a short cable with a pre-installed connector on one end—such as spade, ring, LC, SC, ST, FC, SMA, or U.FL—while the other end is left bare for splicing or crimping. Electrical Pigtail Connectors

In electrical and automotive applications, pigtail connectors often use spade, ring, or blade terminals pre-attached to one end of a short wire. The bare end is then crimped, twisted, or soldered to the main circuit or wire bundle. These connectors are commonly used to connect multiple wires to a single device terminal, such as switches, sensors, or lighting fixtures, providing a secure and reliable connection while reducing stress on the wiring .

Fiber Optic Pigtail Connectors

For fiber optic systems, pigtails have optical connectors pre-installed on one end, such as LC, SC, ST, or FC, and a bare fiber on the other. The bare fiber is fusion-spliced to the field fiber inside splice trays, ensuring minimal signal loss and precise termination. These are widely used in telecom networks, data centers, and FTTH deployments .

RF and Coaxial Pigtail Connectors

In RF and wireless applications, pigtails may use SMA, MMCX, or U.FL connectors on one end, with the other end left as a bare coaxial cable for integration into devices or antennas. These connectors are designed for high-frequency signals and are common in routers, IoT devices, and wireless modules .

Summary

The type of connector on a pigtail depends on the application:

- Electrical/Automotive: spade, ring, or blade terminals
- Fiber Optic: LC, SC, ST, FC
- RF/Coaxial: SMA, MMCX, U.FL The bare end allows for splicing, crimping, or soldering to the system, making pigtails versatile for repairs, extensions, or custom installations . Proper selection ensures reliable performance, safety, and signal integrity across different industries.

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Written by Ben Hamlitsch, trueCABLE Technical and Product Innovation Manager
RCDD, FOI A fiber optic pigtail is a

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A pigtail wire is a short length of wire, with one end used to connect to a screw terminal on an electrical device, and

Electrical Pigtails

Q. When does the electrical code require pigtails for connecting devices in residential wiring? A. Ben Giles, licensed

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Correctly determining the right pigtail connector can sometimes feel like searching for a needle in a

An Introduction to Fiber Optic Pigtails

The other side of the pigtail is left without connectors so that the side can be properly fused with the fiber of the optical

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