

Network Cabling

Rollover cable: A rollover cable is also known as a console cable and gets the name rollover because the order of the wires from one end of the cable to the other are totally reversed, or rolled over. The rollover/console cable is used to connect a computer to the console port or auxiliary port of the router for administration purposes.

Back-to-back serial cable: The back-to-back serial cable is used to connect two Cisco routers directly together over a serial link. A back-to-back serial link will have one router act as the DCE device with the clock rate set and the other router act as the DTE device.

Straight-through cable: A straight-through cable is used to connect dissimilar devices together. Scenarios that use straight-through cables are computer-to-switch and switch-to-router.

Crossover cable: A crossover cable has wires 1 and 2 switch positions with wires 3 and 6 on one end and is used to connect similar devices together. Scenarios that use crossover cables are computer-to-computer, switch-to-switch, and computer-to-router (they are both hosts).

Coaxial cable: A network cable type used in old Ethernet environments, such as 10Base2 and 10Base5. Coaxial cable is seen in high-speed Internet connections with cable companies today.

Fiber optic cable: A unique cable type that has a glass core which carries pulses of light as opposed to copper cable carrying electrical signals (coax and twisted pair cabling)