There are two types of fiber

Fiber comes in two flavors: **single mode** and **multimode**. The word "mode" refers to the number of paths the light takes through the fiber.

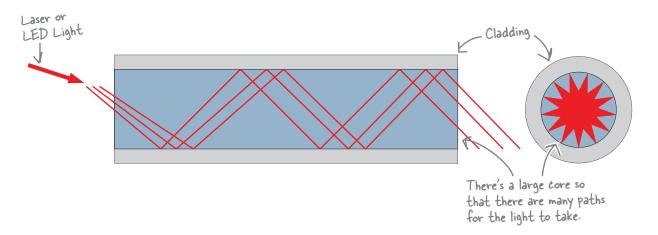
Single mode fiber

In a single mode fiber, the light travels in a **single path**. It takes a laser light, and it has a very small core like this:



Multimode fiber

In a multimode fiber, the light travels **many paths**. It takes a laser or LED light, and has a much larger core like this:



So how do we choose between the two types of fiber?