



BUILDUP & BREAKDOWN:

WHICH CABLES ARE WHICH?

If you think untangling shoelaces is complicated, it's nothing compared to untangling and deciphering the mess of wires and cables your computer uses. Cables transfer information, and each have their own way of doing so. But which cables do what?



PHONE LINE

TYPE OF CABLE:

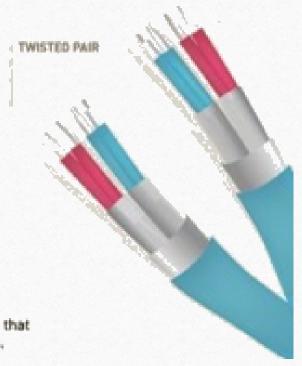
Electromagnetic Interference (EMI), or twisted pair.

WHAT'S IT USED FOR?

Phone line technology is of course, used for landline phone service, but also for DSL and dial-up Internet service. Dial-up technology uses audible frequencies, while DSL Internet uses high-frequency signals so you can get online while using the phone.

DID YOU KNOW?

Phone numbers were first invented during a measles epidemic. Worried that the phone operators would fall ill, numbers instead of names were used.





COAXIAL CABLE

TYPE OF CABLE:

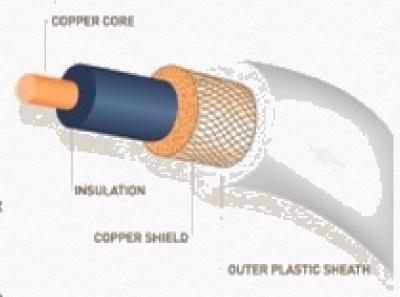
Copper conductor cable.

WHAT'S IT USED FOR?

Used as a transmission line for radio frequencies. Coaxial cables can carry signals great distances and carry Internet connections via Ethernet cables.

DID YOU KNOW?

The makeup of a coaxial cable is divisive enough that it can be installed next to metal objects without risking power loss.







TYPE OF CABLE:

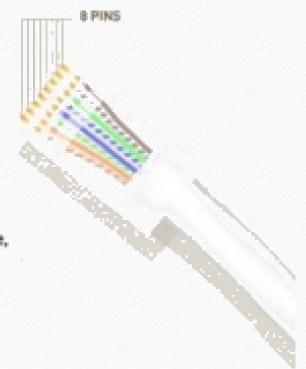
Connector cable. An Ethernet crossover cable connects computer equipment, eliminating the need for a network switch.

WHAT'S IT USED FOR?

To connect network devices. Ethernet cables are similar to a DSL phone line, but have 8 pins in its socket, where a phone line typically has 4 or 6.

DID YOU KNOW?

Ethernet technology was developed by Xerox in the 1970s.





FIBER OPTIC CABLE

TYPE OF CABLE:

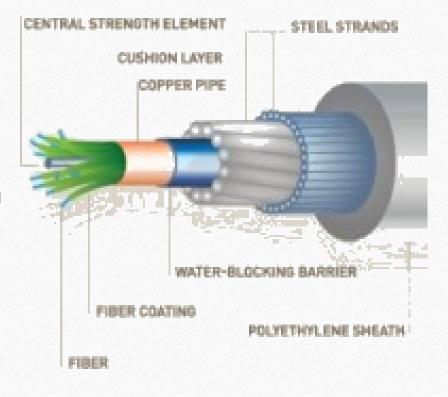
Glass fibers covered in plastic. Data is stored in light, instead of electromagnetic waves.

WHAT'S IT USED FOR?

Fiber optic cables are being used more and more for TV and computer use. Why? The speed at which fiber optic cables transmit light is faster than any other cable technology.

DID YOU KNOW?

Some fiber optic cables are so thin that they are barely wider than a strand of hair.





Thank You

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