

144 Optical Cable Stripping Method



Overview

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Key Takeaways

Stripping a 144-fiber optical cable requires careful sequential removal of the outer jacket, strength members, and buffer tubes to expose the fibers without causing damage.

Tools Required

- Cable scissors and diagonal cutters
- Fiber optic strippers (mechanical or thermo-mechanical)
- Paper toweling or lint-free wipes
- Nippers for small cuts
- Marker for sheath markings

- Optional: heat-assisted stripper for tight coatings

Step-by-Step Stripping Procedure

1. Safety and Preparation
 - Always wear safety glasses and work in a clean, well-lit area .
 - Follow all local health and safety regulations when handling fibers and chemicals .
 - Use a dummy cable section to test cutter settings and ensure the depth does not damage the tubes .
2. Outer Jacket Removal
 - Measure and mark the length of jacket to be removed (typically 150 mm from the cable end for jointing), .

- Apply a circumferential cut around the cable at the marked point.
- Make two longitudinal cuts opposite each other along the jacket.
- Carefully peel off the outer jacket to expose the central strength member (CSM) and the SZ-stranded tubes .

3. Handling Strength Members

- Identify the glass-reinforced plastic (GRP) central strength member and any water-blocking elements.

- Remove or cut away the strength members carefully without nicking the tubes .

4. Tube Access and Fiber Exposure

- Each tube contains 24 fibers and is filled with water-blocking gel or compound.
- Cut one tube and carefully remove the gel using a suitable cleaner if gel-filled .
- Avoid excessive force to prevent fiber breakage .

5. Fiber Stripping

- Use a precision fiber stripper to remove the buffer coating from each fiber (tight buffer 900 µm or primary coating 250 µm), .
- Strip fibers progressively; do not attempt to remove multiple layers at once.
- Ensure the bare glass fiber is exposed cleanly without scratches or nicks .
- For thermo-mechanical strippers, heat the coating slightly to ease removal without damaging the fiber .

6. Final Checks

- Inspect stripped fibers for clean, straight ends.
- Wipe fibers with lint-free paper to remove any residue.
- Organize fibers carefully for splicing or termination to prevent tangling or microbends .

Best Practices

- Always strip fibers individually and progressively.
- Use properly calibrated tools to avoid cutting into the glass.
- Keep the work area clean and dispose of fiber scraps safely.
- For high-fiber-count cables like 144f, consider working in sections to maintain control and prevent fiber damage . By following these steps and using the correct tools, you can safely and efficiently strip a 144-fiber optical cable for splicing or termination while minimizing the risk of fiber damage.

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The main types include mechanical handheld tools with precise blades, thermo-mechanical strippers that

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You have successfully completed this exercise when you have been able to strip the jacket and both buffer coating layers from the

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Fiber stripping

Fibers must be stripped of all protective coatings prior to inserting into a connector. Mechanical stripping, by far the

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The cable is jacketed with a black UV-resistant polyethylene sheath. The 12-fiber ribbons have readily identifiable

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Tools And Materials Needed Safety Glasses ST patch cord Fiber Optic stripper Test equipment: VFL and OLTS, reference test

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SST-Ribbon Single-Tube, Gel-Free Cable 144 F, Single-mode (OS2)

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Investigation of cladding and coating stripping methods for specialty ...

This study focuses on finding the cladding and coating stripping methods for four recent specialty optical fibers, namely:

Introduction to Fiber Optics Cables – Stripping and Cleaving

Each group of participants will have a commercially available fiber optic stripper. As you will discover, this makes the

How to Terminate Fiber Optic Cable: Top 5 Essential Tips

Learn how to terminate fiber optic cable with connectors and splicing. Discover tools, techniques, and tips for precise

Method for laser stripping of optical fiber and flat cable

This method allows stripping of the protective layers from single fibers and from multi-fiber ribbon cables. It also allows stripping of

The “golden rule” in stripping

About the Author FOC Tips Fiber Optic Center has a team of technical experts and marketing strategists with decades

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Laser-based methods of stripping fiber optic cables

The method can further include opening the protective cover at the groove to form a split protective cover portion (114 S), and

Stripping (fiber)

Stripping is the act of removing the protective polymer coating around optical fiber in preparation for fusion splicing. The splicing

144-Core ADSS Fiber Color Coding & Marking Standards: Complete

Complete guide to TIA-598 color coding for 144-core ADSS fiber optic cables. Covers buffer tube numbering, binder grouping, cable

Fiber Optic Stripping Tool

1. General 1.1 This procedure describes how to use the Miller® or Clauss® CFS-2 fiber stripping tools (Figure 1).

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