How to use a butterfly-shaped optical cable stripper

Overview

A fiber stripper is a precision tool used to remove the protective polymer fiber coatings from an optical fiber.

Key Takeaways

A butterfly-shaped optical cable stripper allows fast, safe removal of the outer sheath from fiber optic cables with a single-handed push-and-pull motion, protecting the internal fibers.Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Prepare the Cable and Workspace

• Wear safety glasses to protect your eyes from fiber shards.

• Ensure the cable is clean and free from tension.

• Have a container ready for fiber scraps to prevent injury or contamination . 2. Position the Stripper

• Hold the butterfly-shaped stripper in your dominant hand.

• Align the cable with the factory-set blades; no adjustments are needed .

• The tool is designed for a push-on, then pull-off operation, so place it at the point where you want to strip the sheath. 3. Strip the Outer Sheath

• Push the stripper onto the cable until the blades engage the outer sheath.

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• Pull the tool along the cable or slide it off to remove the sheath cleanly.

• The enclosed blades prevent damage to the internal optical fibers . 4. Strip the Buffer Coatings (if needed)

• If your cable has multiple buffer layers (e.g., 900 micron and 250 micron), use the appropriate grooves on the stripper.

• Take small, incremental cuts (about 6–8 mm at a time) to avoid stressing or breaking the fiber .

• Hold the stripper at a 45-degree angle to the fiber for smoother removal. 5. Clean the Fiber

• After stripping, clean the exposed fiber with a lint-free wipe and alcohol to remove debris or residue .

• Ensure the fiber is free of dust or oils before splicing or connectorization. 6. Dispose of Fiber Scraps Safely

• Collect all fiber scraps in a marked container to prevent injury or contamination . Tips for Best Results
• Practice on spare cable to get a feel for the tool's angle and pressure.

• Avoid trying to remove too much buffer at once; gradual stripping reduces breakage.

• The butterfly-shaped stripper is lightweight and ergonomic, making it suitable for overhead or confined spaces . By following these steps, you can efficiently and safely strip fiber optic cables using a butterfly-shaped optical cable stripper without damaging the delicate internal fibers.

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