

PVC Cable Color Code Chart

Insulation Color Code

Twisted pair telephone cables and wires use the standard 25-pair color code system adopted by Western Electric. This color code requires only ten different insulation colors: five for the "tip" conductors in twisted pairs; five for the "ring" conductors in twisted pairs. The "tip" and "ring" combinations produce twenty-five uniquely color-coded twisted pairs.

Pair No.	Tip	Ring
1	White	Blue
2	White	Orange
3	White	Green
4	White	Brown
5	White	Slate
6	Red	Blue
7	Red	Orange
8	Red	Green
9	Red	Brown
10	Red	Slate
11	Black	Blue
12	Black	Orange
13	Black	Green
14	Black	Brown
15	Black	Slate
16	Yellow	Blue
17	Yellow	Orange
18	Yellow	Green
19	Yellow	Brown
20	Yellow	Slate
21	Violet	Blue
22	Violet	Orange
23	Violet	Green
24	Violet	Brown
25	Violet	Slate

Inside Cable Cross-Reference Color Code

A cross-referencing band-marked variation of the same color code system is used on inside cable, switchboard cable, cross-connect wire and paired station wires to facilitate conductor identification when making complicated and/or frequent terminations. The insulation of one conductor in a twisted pair is given a colored band-marking corresponding to the insulation color of the male conductor in the same twisted pair. For example, in pair number 1 the tip conductor has a white insulation with a blue band marking; the ring conductor has the opposite: A blue insulation with a white band marking. Thus, each of the 50 conductors in a 25-pair sequence has a unique color code.

Pair No.	Tip Conductor		Ring Conductor	
	Insulation	Band Mark	Insulation	Band Mark
1	White	Blue	White	Blue
2	White	Orange	White	Orange
3	White	Green	White	Green
4	White	Brown	White	Brown
5	White	Slate	White	Slate
6	Red	Blue	Red	Blue
7	Red	Orange	Red	Orange
8	Red	Green	Red	Green
9	Red	Brown	Red	Brown
10	Red	Slate	Red	Slate
11	Black	Blue	Black	Blue
12	Black	Orange	Black	Orange
13	Black	Green	Black	Green
14	Black	Brown	Black	Brown
15	Black	Slate	Black	Slate
16	Yellow	Blue	Yellow	Blue
17	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Orange
18	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green
19	Yellow	Brown	Yellow	Brown
20	Yellow	Slate	Yellow	Slate
21	Violet	Blue	Violet	Blue
22	Violet	Orange	Violet	Orange
23	Violet	Green	Violet	Green
24	Violet	Brown	Violet	Brown
25	Violet	Slate	Violet	Slate

Binding Tape Color Code

Cables containing more than 25 pairs are assembled in sub-groups. The sub-groups are identified, by spirally applied color-coded non-hygroscopic binding tapes. The binding tapes use the same 25-pair color code.

By using these binding tapes, the sub-groups may be cabled together into "super" sub-groups. These, in turn, may be cabled together for the total pair-count cable core assembly. Thus, in terms of color coding, there is no practical limit to the number of identifiable twisted pairs a cable may contain; all using the basic 25-pair insulation and binder color code system.

Binder No.	Binder Color	Binder No.	Binder Color
1	White-Blue	13	Black-Green
2	White-Orange	14	Black-Brown
3	White-Green	15	Black-Slate
4	White-Brown	16	Yellow-Blue
5	White-Slate	17	Yellow-Orange
6	Red-Blue	18	Yellow-Green
7	Red-Orange	19	Yellow-Brown
8	Red-Green	20	Yellow-Slate
9	Red-Brown	21	Violet-Blue
10	Red-Slate	22	Violet-Orange
11	Black-Blue	23	Violet-Green
12	Black-Orange	24	Violet-Brown