How long should the fiber stripper be for the fiber optic splice pigtail



Overview

The fiber optic stripper should be perpendicular to the fiber optic, and the upper part should be inclined inward at a certain angle.

Key Takeaways

For fusion splicing, the recommended stripping length of a fiber optic pigtail is typically about 30 mm of bare glass.

Recommended Stripping Procedure

When preparing a fiber optic pigtail for splicing, you need to remove both the 900 µm tight buffer and the 250 µm acrylate coating to expose the bare glass. Most guides recommend exposing approximately 30 mm of bare fiber for proper fusion splicing. This length provides enough fiber to handle, clean, and cleave accurately without risking damage to the glass.

Best Practices

Use the correct notch on your fiber stripper to avoid nicking the glass, which can cause fractures and eventual fiber breakage. Strip in small increments (1–2 cm at a time) to maintain control and prevent damage to the fiber. Clean the exposed fiber with a lint-free wipe soaked in 99% isopropyl alcohol.

A high-pitched “squeak” indicates the fiber is clean and ready for cleaving. Handle the bare fiber carefully, avoiding contact with fingers or surfaces to prevent contamination and signal loss.

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Additional Notes

The stripping length may vary slightly depending on the fusion splicer model and the type of pigtail, but 30 mm is a standard starting point for most singlemode and multimode pigtails. For high-density applications, stripping only the necessary length in one action helps protect the remaining buffer and reduces the risk of damage. By following these guidelines, you ensure a low-loss, reliable splice and maintain the integrity of your fiber optic network.

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