Price and connector of fiber optic cable



Overview

Discover the cost of fiber optic cable in this pricing guide. Learn material prices, installation factors, and what impacts total project costs overall.

Key Takeaways

Fiber optic cables cost between $1 and $6 per foot depending on type, with connectors like SC, LC, ST, and FC used for easy connection and low signal loss.

Fiber Optic Cable Pricing

The cost of fiber optic cables varies based on fiber type, strand count, and installation method. Retail prices typically range from $1 to $6 per linear foot, while wholesale bulk purchases can be as low as $0. 09 to $1.

52 per foot. Single-mode fiber is generally cheaper per foot than multimode fiber but requires more expensive equipment for termination. Simple 1-core FTTH drop cables cost around $0.

13 per foot, whereas high-count backbone cables (e.g., 288 strands) can reach $6 per foot or more. Pre-terminated assemblies and patch cables are more expensive due to factory termination.

Common Fiber Optic Connectors

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Fiber optic connectors are mechanical devices that align and join optical fibers, allowing light to pass with minimal loss and enabling easy connection and disconnection. The most widely used connector types include: SC (Subscriber Connector): Square-shaped, push-pull coupling, commonly used in FTTH and data centers. SC/APC variants are preferred for low return loss applications like GPON networks.

L

C (Lucent Connector): Miniaturized 1. 25mm ferrule, ideal for high-density applications.

L

C connectors are standard in modern data centers for duplex or simplex configurations.

S

T (Straight Tip): Bayonet-style twist-lock, used in legacy systems, industrial, and military networks.

F

C (Ferrule Connector): Threaded coupling for secure connections in high-vibration environments, gradually being replaced by LC and SC in telecom. Connectors can be field-attachable or pre-terminated, and they often include ceramic ferrules for durability and precise alignment. Choosing the right connector ensures low insertion loss, return loss, and compatibility with patch panels, transceivers, and devices.

Summary

When planning a fiber optic network, consider both the cable type and connector type. Single-mode fiber is best for long-distance communication, while multimode fiber suits shorter distances. Connector choice depends on density, environment, and performance requirements, with SC and LC being the most common in modern installations.

Prices vary widely, so budgeting should account for cable length, fiber count, and whether pre-terminated assemblies are used.

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Article Content

Cost of Fiber Optic Cable: Pricing Guide (2026)

Discover the cost of fiber optic cable in this pricing guide. Learn material prices, installation factors, and what impacts total project costs overall.

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Mouser offers inventory, pricing, & datasheets for Fiber Optic Connectors.

Fiber Optic Cable Cost and Price Guide – Design Transition Studio

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Fiber Optic Patch Cable, LC to LC, Single Mode 9/125, Duplex

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Fiber Optic Patch Cable, SC to SC, Single Mode 9/125, Duplex

These high speed Single Mode 9/125µm duplex fiber optic patch cables are terminated with SC fiber optic connectors on both ends (SC-SC). Referred to as Subscriber Connectors, Square Connectors

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