A comprehensive list of prices for standard optical cables



Overview

Main cost drivers include cable grade (indoor vs outdoor, armoured), distance, and labor for trenching, splicing, and termination.

Key Takeaways

Fiber optic cable prices typically range from $0. 05 to $6 per foot depending on type, fiber count, and construction. General Pricing OverviewSingle-mode fiber (OS1/OS2): $0.

09 to $1. 52 per foot for standard cables, with indoor cables generally on the lower end and outdoor or long-distance cables higher. Multimode fiber (OM1/OM2/OM3/OM4): $0.

10 to $6 per foot, depending on core size, strand count, and application.

Simplex/

Duplex indoor cables: $0. 05 to $0. 30 per meter, suitable for office or building installations.

Armored cables (steel tape or FRP): $0. 30 to $5 per foot, designed for harsh environments or direct burial. Aerial/self-supporting cables: $0.

40 to $1. 50 per meter, used for overhead installations. Pre-terminated or patch cables: Higher cost due to factory termination, varying by connector type and fiber strands.

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Factors Affecting Price

Fiber Count: Higher strand counts increase cost proportionally. For example, a 12-strand cable may cost around $0. 50 per foot, while a 24-strand cable can reach $1.

00 per foot. Jacket Material and Rating: LSZH jackets are 25–40% more expensive than standard PVC due to safety and environmental benefits. Plenum-rated indoor cables cost more than standard riser-rated cables.

Installation Type: Underground or direct-burial installations are more expensive than indoor or aerial runs. Core Material: Glass fiber cores are standard for high-speed, long-distance transmission and cost more than plastic optical fiber alternatives. Volume and Lead Time: Bulk purchases (10 km+ reels) reduce per-foot cost compared to small retail quantities.

Example Price Ranges (Indicative)Cable TypePrice Range (USD/foot)Single-mode indoor$0. 09 – $0. 50Single-mode outdoor$0.

10 – $1. 52Multimode OM3/OM4$1. 50 – $6.

00Armored / harsh environment$0. 50 – $5. 00Pre-terminated patch cable$1.

00 – $6. 00+These prices are indicative and can vary based on supplier, region, and specific project requirements. For the most accurate and up-to-date pricing, it is recommended to consult manufacturer or distributor price lists, such as Polycab or CRU Group reports.

By considering fiber type, strand count, jacket material, and installation environment, you can estimate costs for both small-scale and large-scale optical network projects.

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