# Manually strip the optical cable



## Overview

Use the fiber stripper to cut off 2" (50mm) of the cable jacket and pull off the cut piece. Use the first groove in the fiber stripper - the biggest one - and just gently cut the fiber jacket and pull it off.

## Key Takeaways

Stripping optical cables involves carefully removing the outer jacket, strength members, and buffer coatings to expose the fiber without causing damage.

### Preparation and Safety

Work area: Ensure a clean, well-lit workspace free of dust and debris ( ). Safety gear: Always wear safety glasses to protect your eyes from sharp fiber shards ( ). Tools: Use a fiber optic cable stripper, cleaver, hook blade knife, alcohol wipes, and inspection microscope ( ).

### Step-by-

### Step Stripping Process

Measure and mark the cable: Determine the length of jacket to remove based on your termination or splicing needs. Mark the jacket accordingly ( ). Score the outer jacket: Use a circular scoring tool or hook blade to make a shallow cut around the outer jacket, typically 7–10 inches from the cable end.

Avoid cutting too deep to prevent damaging the inner fibers ( ). Remove the outer jacket: Bend the scored section to break the plastic and peel it away. Expose the ripcord if present, which can help remove the remaining jacket ( ).

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Strip strength members: Carefully remove aramid yarn or other strength fibers without cutting the fiber itself. These fibers provide tensile strength and must remain intact for proper connector performance ( ). Remove buffer coatings: Use a fiber optic stripper to remove the protective coating from each individual fiber.

Adjust the stripper blade depth according to the fiber diameter to avoid nicking the glass ( ). Clean the fiber: Wipe the stripped fiber with alcohol or a cleaning solution to remove debris and ensure a clean surface for termination ( ). Cleave the fiber: Use a fiber optic cleaver to create a smooth, perpendicular end face.

Inspect the cleave with a microscope or visual fault locator to ensure it is free of defects ( ). Repeat for multiple fibers: If working with multi-fiber cables, repeat the stripping, cleaning, and cleaving process for each fiber individually, maintaining consistency and precision ( ).

### Best Practices

Strip layers progressively: jacket first, then strength members, then buffers ( ). Maintain tools: Keep cutting edges sharp to prevent fiber damage ( ). Handle fibers carefully: Avoid bending fibers sharply or applying excessive force.

Dispose of fiber scraps safely to prevent injury ( ). Following these steps ensures clean, undamaged fibers ready for splicing or connectorization, which is critical for optimal signal transmission and network performance ( ).

## Article Content

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In this instructional video, Bob Licari, Test Equipment Product Manager, demonstrates a simple way to strip optical fiber.

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Good fiber optic stripping techniques in your cable assembly process are crucial. See best practices for how to strip fiber optic cable buffers & jackets.

Fiber Strippers – tools, mechanical, thermal, chemical, plasma,

Fiber strippers are precision tools that reliably and cleanly remove a defined length of coating (often 30–40 mm) from a fiber end so that the bare glass is exposed without scratching or nicking it.

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stripping fiber optic cables

I am stripping two 144F loose tube cables and one 48F loose tube cable. Please like, subscribe, and comment any questions you may have.

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Using samples of simplex, zipcord and/or breakout cable, strip the jacket, cut the strength members to length with the Kevlar scissors and prepare the cable for

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Lesson 3: Fiber Optic Cable And Fiber Preparation Objectives: From this lesson you should learn: How to identify typical fiber optic cables How to prepare cables for

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Lesson: Stripping Optical Fiber Cable Objectives: From this lesson you should learn: How to use these tools to strip cable to the bare fiber Tools: Safety Glasses Fiber Stripper Kevlar Shears Components:

How to Strip, Splice, Coil & Install Optical Cables

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