

What is the price of optical fiber cables



Article Overview

Fiber optic cable prices range from approximately \$0.09 to \$6 per foot depending on type, strand count, and application.

Typical Pricing

- Materials Only: Wholesale bulk purchases range from \$0.09 to \$1.52 per foot, while retail prices are typically \$1 to \$6 per foot .
- Single-Core FTTH Drop Cable: Around \$0.13 per foot.
- High-Strand Backbone Cable (e.g., 288 strands): Can reach \$6 per foot or more .
- Single-Mode Fiber: \$0.10–\$0.50 per foot.
- Multimode Fiber: \$0.30–\$1.00 per foot. Higher strand counts increase costs proportionally (e.g., 12-strand $\approx$ \$0.50/ft, 24-strand $\approx$ \$1.00/ft) .

Factors Affecting Cost

- Fiber Type and Count: Single-mode is generally cheaper per meter than multimode for raw cable, but multimode may reduce total link costs due to cheaper transceivers .
- Cable Construction: Indoor riser-rated cables are less expensive than plenum-rated or armored cables. Armored cables for harsh environments or direct burial can cost \$0.50–\$5 per foot .
- Jacket Material and Environmental Rating: LSZH jackets are 25–40% more expensive than standard PVC. Outdoor UV-resistant jackets or direct-burial cables increase cost .
- Installation and Labor: Labor for trenching, splicing, and termination can account for 60–80% of total project cost. Pre-terminated cables reduce field labor but increa...

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