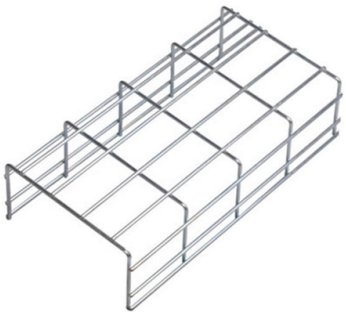
Lc fiber optic patch cord sequence



Overview

LC-LC fiber patch cable with two LC fiber connectors terminated at both ends is the most commonly used fiber optic cable type in the industry.

Key Takeaways

LC fiber optic patch cords use a standardized sequence to ensure proper polarity and low-loss connections, typically involving LC connectors on both ends with attention to fiber type, connector polish, and orientation.

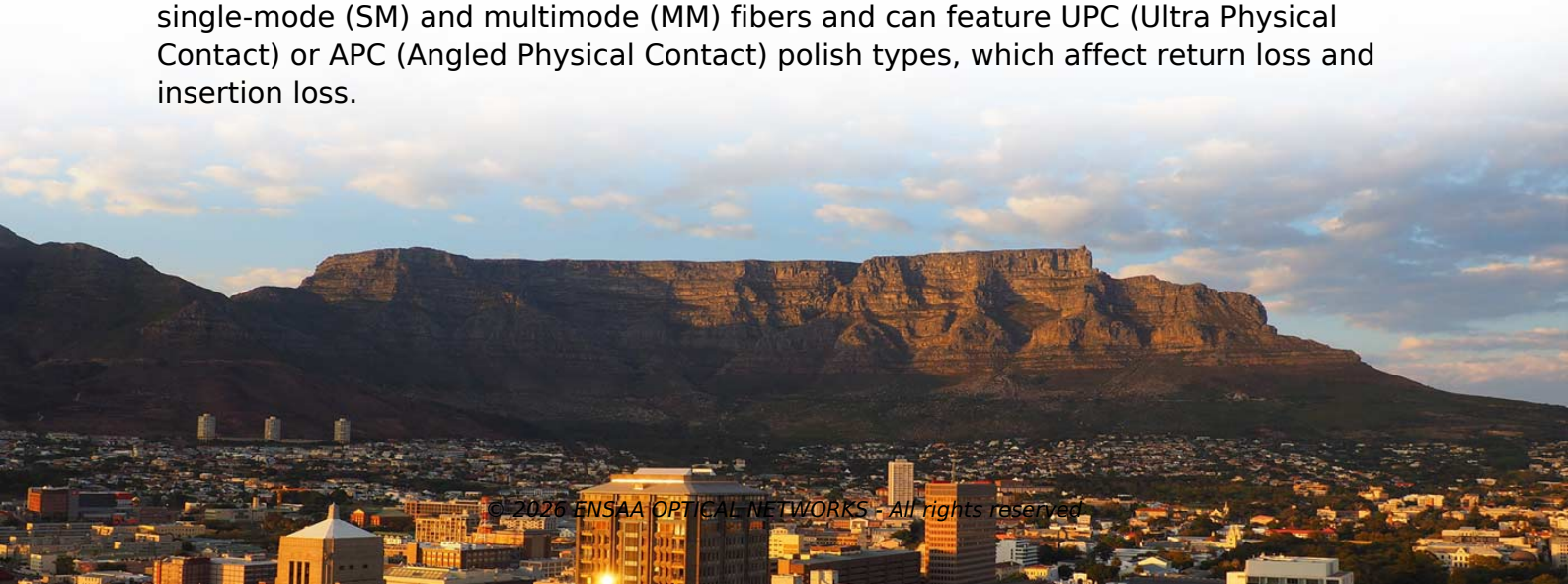
Understanding LC Patch Cords

An L

C fiber optic patch cord is a flexible fiber cable terminated with LC connectors on both ends, designed to interconnect network devices such as switches, patch panels, and transceivers.

L

C connectors are small form factor (SFF) connectors with a 1. 25 mm ferrule, widely used in high-density environments like data centers. They are compatible with both single-mode (SM) and multimode (MM) fibers and can feature UPC (Ultra Physical Contact) or APC (Angled Physical Contact) polish types, which affect return loss and insertion loss.



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Standard Sequence and Polarity

The sequence of an LC patch cord refers to how the fibers are arranged and connected to maintain proper signal flow: Identify Fiber Type: Determine whether the patch cord is single-mode (yellow jacket) or multimode (orange or aqua jacket). Connector Type: Ensure both ends have LC connectors, and note the polish type (UPC or APC).

UP

C connectors are flat or slightly domed, while APC connectors have an 8° angled endface. Polarity Consideration: For duplex LC patch cords, the standard sequence is A-to-B or straight-through: Type A (Straight-through): Transmit (Tx) on one end connects to Receive (Rx) on the other end. The fibers are crossed internally in the patch panel or equipment to maintain correct polarity.

Type B (Cross-over): Sometimes used in specific setups, where Tx and Rx are swapped at one end. Connector Orientation: LC connectors have a latch mechanism. Ensure the latch is properly aligned with the adapter to prevent misalignment and signal loss.

Installation Sequence: Connect one end to the patch panel or transceiver, then route the fiber carefully to avoid bends below the minimum bend radius, and connect the other end to the corresponding device.

Best Practices

Labeling: Clearly label both ends of the patch cord to avoid confusion in high-density racks. Testing: Use an optical power meter or OTDR to verify continuity and insertion loss after installation. Avoid Mixing Polishes: Do not connect UPC to APC directly, as this increases return loss and can damage connectors.

Maintain Bend Radius: Avoid sharp bends to prevent microbending losses, especially in single-mode fibers. By following this sequence and orientation logic, LC fiber optic patch cords ensure reliable, low-loss connections in high-density network environments, supporting both single-mode and multimode applications.

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