

What to do if an optical fiber cable is cut



Article Overview

If an optical fiber cable is cut, you can restore connectivity by carefully locating the break, preparing the fiber ends, splicing them using proper tools, and testing the connection.

Immediate Steps

- **Assess the Damage:** Inspect the cable visually to identify cuts, kinks, or frayed ends. Look for damage to the outer jacket and internal fibers to determine where to cut and prepare the cable for repair .
- **Locate the Break:** For less visible or internal faults, use an Optical Time-Domain Reflectometer (OTDR) to pinpoint the exact location of the break and measure signal loss. This ensures precise repair and avoids unnecessary cutting .

Tools Required

- Fiber optic stripper and cutter to remove damaged sections and expose the fiber core .
- Fiber cleaver for precise trimming of fiber ends .
- Fusion splicer or mechanical splicing kit to join the fibers .
- Cleaning materials to remove dust or debris from fiber ends .
- Protective gear to prevent injury during handling .

Repair Procedure

- **Cut Away Damaged Sections:** Remove any frayed or broken parts of the cable using a fiber optic cutter .
- **Strip the Fiber Ends:** Carefully remove the protective coating to expose the bare fi...

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