

# Ethernet Cabling

## ***CATEGORY 3 CABLE***

Category 3 cable is used as telephone cable and has a 100mhz bandwidth, using an RJ11 connector. It is UTP cable, with a max distance of 100M (300 feet) before the signal starts to degrade and can use 10Base-T LAN applications with a max speed of 4mbps.



## ***CATEGORY 4 CABLE***

Category 4 cable is rarely used anymore, and has been wiped out by Cat5+ and has a 100mhz bandwidth. It is UTP cable, with a max distance of 100M (300 feet) before the signal starts to degrade and can use 10Base-T LAN applications with a max speed of 16mbps.



## ***CATEGORY 5 CABLE***

Category 5 cable is a little old nowadays, but it still used widely in networks and has a 100mhz bandwidth. Cat 5 is UTP cable, with a maximum length of 100M (300 feet) before the signal starts to degrade. Cat 5 can be used in 10BaseT, 100Base-Tx, ATM and CDDI LAN applications.



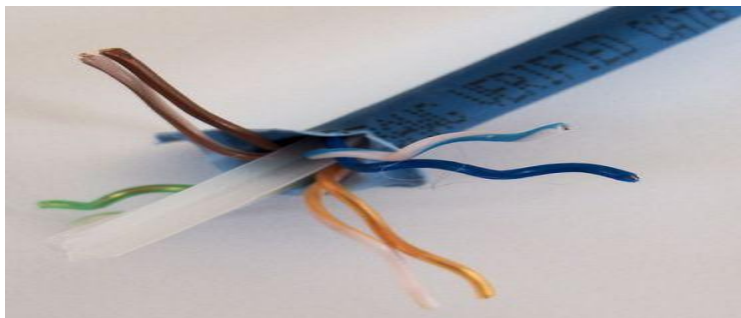
### ***CATEGORY 5e CABLE***

Category 5e cable is the most common type of cable used today in networks and has a 100MHz bandwidth. Cat 5e is UTP cable, with a maximum length of 100M (300 feet) before the signal starts to degrade, and can be used in 10Base-T and 100Base-T LAN applications.



### ***CATEGORY 6 CABLE***

Category 6 cable is the up and coming cable with a 250MHz bandwidth. It is full duplex cable which means that it can be used with gigabit routers. It has two 4-wire paths instead of 2 2-wire paths like the cabling before. Cat 6 is UTP cable, with a maximum length of 100M (300 feet) before the signal starts to degrade. Cat 6 can be used in 10Base-T, 100Base-T, and 1000Base-T LAN applications.



### ***CATEGORY 7 CABLE***

Category 7 is not being used yet. It is a hybrid cable with a 600MHz bandwidth. It is S/FTP cable with a maximum length of 100M (300 feet) before the signal starts to degrade. Cat 7 can be used in 1000Base-T LAN applications.



### ***BLOCK AMPLIFIER***

A device attached to a long cable run, which works just like a repeater to re-boost the signal so that the signal can be carried over a longer distance.

Source: <http://computrnetworking.wordpress.com/2012/02/20/ethernet-cabling/>