

General UTP Installation Rules

The following requirements shall be observed during installation and termination of UTP cable:

- * Minimum allowed UTP cable bend radius is four times the cable diameter.
- * Maximum allowed pulling tension for 4-pair UTP cable is 110 N (25 lbf).
- * Maximum allowed pair untwisting at the termination points is 13 mm (0.5 in) for Category 5 and Category 5E cables and 75 mm (3 in) for Category 3 cables.
- * For achieving optimal performance, UTP cable jackets should be stripped as minimally as required for termination to connecting hardware.
- * For achieving optimal performance, UTP outlet cables should be connected to connecting hardware (outlets, distribution device) of the same or higher Category. For example, for achieving Category 5 performance Category 5 UTP cable should be terminated with Category 5 outlets.
- * For achieving optimal performance, UTP outlet cables should be used with equipment and patch cords of the same or higher Category. For example, for achieving Category 5 performance Category 5 UTP cable should be used with the Category 5 cords.
- * At outlets, a minimum of 200 mm (8 in) of excess UTP cable should be available for possible re-termination.
- * Staples should be used very carefully because they may deform the cable and degrade its performance. The use of plastic staples or open rings (cables should be loose) or other appropriate support hardware (hook clips, J-hooks) is recommended.
- * Cable ties should not be over-tightened to avoid performance degradation.