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Cat5 network cables are at present the most popular twisted pair cables. They belong to the fifth generation twisted pairs of the Ethernet Technology. This standard pair is defined by the Electronic Industries Association and the Telecommunication Industry Association. These cables are made of four pairs of copper wire. The maximum length permissible for these cables is 100m. They support Ethernet speed up to 100Mbps. Though there are four pairs of copper wire, fast Ethernet communications make use of only two pairs. These cables come in two varieties â€“ solid and stranded. For longer lengths as well as fixed wiring like that of offices the solid variety is suitable. For short distance as well as movable wiring stranded cable can be used. Since the Ethernet gear supports high speed and is cost effective this type of cable continues to be the most popular in spite of introduction of more advanced versions like cat6 and cat7.

Houses require the cables that run all over the area. Networks, telephones, HDMI devices and security cameras, etcâ€¦ can use these cables for data transmission. It is very easy to make these cables at home and by making them at home one can save considerable amount of money. Besides the saving aspect, there are other advantages also when the cables are made at home. When they are to be thread through tight conduits, they may be run without the heads attached.

When cat5 network cables are required to run a distance that is more than 50ft, crimped cables of that length may not be available in the market. In such cases, they can be made at home. Moreover, by cutting the cables at correct lengths ties can be avoided so as to make it easier to clean the wires. When the wires are cut in correct lengths and are run between the locations the plugs can be attached. Using crimp tools, the cables are to be stripped off the sheath by 3 â€“ 5mm at the end. When stripped, the 8 color-coded wires can be seen. The color-coded wires must be arranged in the same order at both ends. Finally the colored wires are to be inserted into the plug. The plug may be put into the crimp tool and squeeze.

These cables are available at computer stores and electrical stores. When the cable has to travel through air circulation area, Plenum rated Ethernet cable is to be used. For wiring inside the walls solid wire cable is used and stranded variety is used for making patch cables.

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