

# Installation Tips & Techniques

**Tip 1** It is important to do a walk through at the site of the installation before bidding and doing the actual work. Blue prints and customer expectations are not always clear and concise. Electrical, plumbing, dimensional and structural blue prints need to be consulted as well as the telecommunications prints. Uninformed or lack of knowledge is no excuse for costly mistakes.



**Tip 2** Tired of trying to clean the cable lube off your hands? Do you have special "cable -lube" clothes that you wear when you're going to pull cable through conduit? How about using corn starch.

**Tip 3**

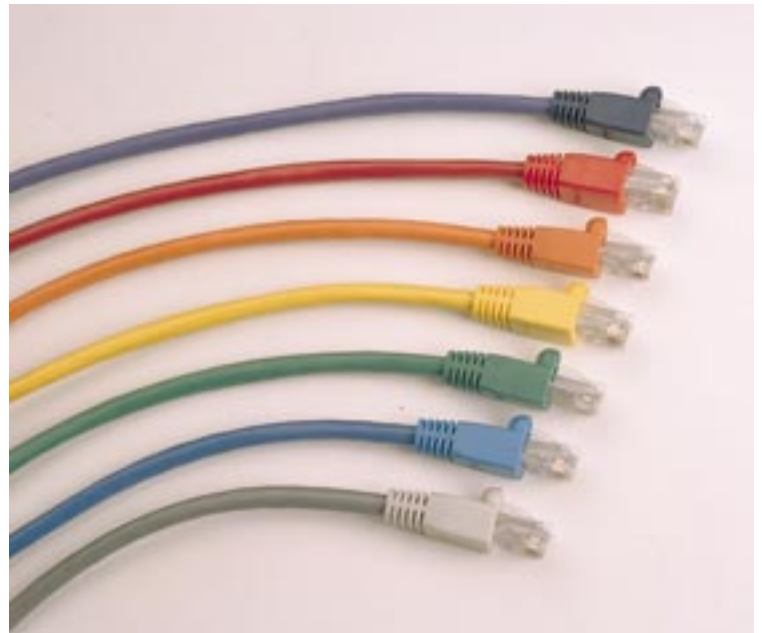


What is the correct pulling tension for copper and fiber cable? Some installers will attach 20 pound fishing filament to their pull string or rope to assure proper tension. If the filament does not break during the pull, the installer knows that they did not exceed 20 pounds of pull tension (this is still 5 pounds left the TIA specifications).

**Tip 4** Ever have to run a cable in a shallow hanging or raised floor? Is it difficult to thread the pull string? Try a Nerf® crossbow or a radio controlled vehicle. It sure beats trying to stuff your smallest installer through the space with a pull string in his teeth.

**Tip 5** Aren't sure of your bend radius? Cut small sections of PVC piping whose outside dimensions equal the bend radius you're trying to adhere to. Attach these "radius rings" to your tool belt or lend them to the "new guy" then use them as templates when your not sure of the bend required.

**Tip 6** When finishing up an installation, you might want to provide your customer with a certain number of colored patch cords that is a different color from what you installed. Tell the customer to use these cables for ALL adds and changes. This practice will serve several purposes; 1. The customer is thankful that they have received this free gift. 2. You have a reason to make service calls in that you inform the customer that



periodically, you will come in and hard wire these changes. 3. By using these methods of documenting customer changes, you now do not have the burden of proof when it comes to charging the customer for repairs. If the problem is a direct result of these colored cables which the customer was responsible for, then the customer.