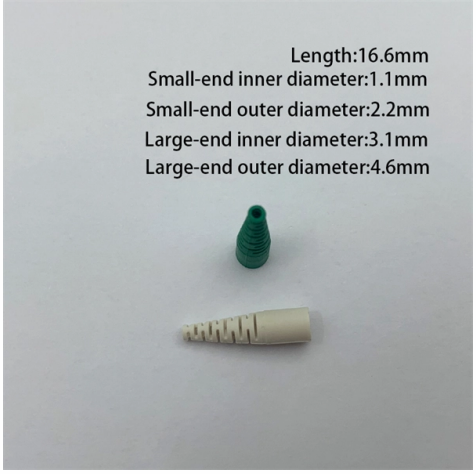
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Must be done when removing the pigtail fiber



Overview

Confused about fiber optic pigtails—which connector type, which polish, fusion or mechanical splice?

Key Takeaways

Proper removal of a fiber optic pigtail requires careful stripping, handling, and cleaning to avoid damage and maintain signal integrity.Safety First

Before starting, ensure all laser sources are turned off and the fiber is disconnected from any active equipment to prevent eye injury from invisible laser radiation . Always wear appropriate safety glasses and handle fibers carefully to avoid cuts or splinters .

Tools Needed
• Fiber optic stripper (Miller, No-Nik, or Microstrip)

• Isopropyl alcohol wipes

• Fusion splicer (if re-splicing)

• Protective caps for fiber ends

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• Tweezers or fiber holders for secure handling
Step-by-Step Removal Process
• Secure the Fiber: Hold the fiber or cable firmly, wrapping a few turns around your finger if needed to prevent slipping .

• Strip the Coating: Use a fiber optic stripper to remove the outer buffer coating. Pull gently to avoid breaking the glass core. Choose a stripper type that matches your skill level and fiber length requirements .

• Clean the Fiber: After stripping, clean the exposed fiber with isopropyl alcohol and a lint-free wipe. Avoid scrubbing or reusing the same cleaning surface to prevent contamination .

• Inspect the Fiber: Use a fiberscope to check for any damage or debris on the fiber end. Proper inspection ensures low signal loss and prevents back reflection .

• Remove the Connector (if applicable): If the pigtail is factory-terminated, carefully detach the connector from the adapter or patch panel. Avoid twisting or bending the fiber sharply .

• Store or Dispose Safely: Place the removed pigtail in a protective cap or resealable container to prevent contamination or injury .
Additional Tips
• Avoid touching the bare fiber with your fingers; oils and dust can degrade performance .

• Do not look directly into the fiber end, even if the laser is off, as residual light may still be present .

• If planning to reuse the fiber, ensure it is re-polished or re-spliced properly to maintain network reliability . By following these steps, you can safely remove a fiber optic pigtail while minimizing the risk of damage, contamination, or signal loss. Proper handling and cleaning are critical for maintaining the performance of FTTH, telecom, and data center networks .

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Refer to physiotherapy if additional mobility assistance is required. The decision for removal must be documented by the MO in the

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