

Low voltage cabling is the installation of cables and wiring that carry low voltage electrical signals, usually below 50 volts. It is used for a variety of applications including data communication, audio/visual systems, security systems, and lighting control systems. This cabling is typically comprised of 4 pair (8 wire) 24-gauge category 3 (although rarely used anymore), category 5 (mostly replaced with category 5e), category 5e, category 6, and category 6a. For data communications, this cable is rated for up to 328 feet.

For longer runs, fiber is usually utilized. Fiber is specified as single-mode or multi-mode, based upon data requirements. It also comes in different strand counts (for example, single strand, 2 strand, 6 strand, 12 strand, etc. Again, based upon data requirements. It also comes in pvc or plenum, indoor or outdoor, armored or non-armored.

There are many other types of cable that are typically utilized for access control, speakers, sound masking, security and fire to name a few. This cable is usually represented by the gauge of cable and the number of wires. For example, 16/4 would be 16-gauge cable with 4 wires.

Access control systems sometimes utilize something called banana cable, which is a combination of different gauge cables with different wire counts all within a single casing.

All cable comes in riser (which is a pvc jacket), plenum (which is non-toxic when it burns), stranded copper, solid copper, shielded or non-shielded, and indoor or outdoor.

ONcomm Communications is proficient in the installation and termination of all these types of cable. ONcomm Communications is also happy to assist in the “needs assessment” for the customer. In addition to pulling, terminating, testing, and labeling equipment, ONcomm Communications can install the devices that the cable runs to. ONcomm Communications will also install data cabinets and will populate the cabinet.