Pricing of Multimode Fiber Optic Cables



Overview

This guide outlines the major factors that influence fiber optic cable costs and provides practical tips for estimating pricing in bulk or project-based scenarios.

Key Takeaways

Multimode fiber optic cables typically range from $2. 50 to $5. 50 per foot, with specialized or armored versions costing up to $13.

50 per foot depending on type, construction, and application. Price Ranges by Fiber TypeOM1 (62. 5-micron core): Most affordable, suitable for short-distance applications, priced around $2.

50 to $4. 00 per foot depending on indoor/outdoor or plenum/riser ratings. OM2 (50-micron core): Slightly higher performance than OM1, generally in the $3.

00 to $4. 25 per foot range. OM3 (50-micron, laser-optimized): Designed for higher bandwidth and longer distances, costs $3.

28 to $4. 50 per foot for standard riser or plenum-rated cables. OM4 (50-micron, enhanced laser-optimized): Superior performance for high-speed data centers, priced $4.

50 to $5. 50 per foot, with armored or specialized versions reaching $13. 50 per foot.

OM5: Advanced multimode fiber for wideband applications, typically more expensive than OM4 due to enhanced performance features.

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Factors Affecting Pricing

Fiber Count: Higher strand counts increase cost proportionally. For example, a 12-strand cable may cost around $0. 50 per foot, while a 24-strand cable can reach $1.

00 per foot for standard multimode fiber. Cable Construction: Indoor riser-rated cables are cheaper than plenum-rated cables designed for air-handling spaces. Armored cables for harsh environments or direct burial can cost $0.

50 to $5 per foot more. Application and Environment: Outdoor, UV-resistant, or direct-burial cables are priced higher due to additional protective materials and compliance requirements. Pre-terminated Assemblies: Factory-terminated cables or patch cords incur higher costs due to labor and connector types.

Bulk Purchases: Buying in large quantities (e.g., >10 km) can reduce per-foot costs, while custom lengths or urgent orders may increase prices.

Summary

For typical data center or LAN applications, OM1 and OM2 are cost-effective for short runs, while OM3 and OM4 are preferred for higher-speed or longer-distance links. The final cost depends on fiber type, strand count, jacket rating, and whether pre-terminated assemblies are used. Planning based on required transmission distance and bandwidth can help avoid overspending on higher-grade fibers unnecessarily.

Article Content

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Updated 2026 cost of fiber optic cable per foot. Get material + installation prices, per-foot breakdown for singlemode/multimode, and expert tips to save on your project.

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