

Installation — Training and Bending Limitations

Physical Limitations Training and Bending

Overview

Training is the positioning of cable when it is not under tension. Bending is the positioning of cable when it is under tension. When installing cable, the object is to limit the mechanical forces so that the cable's physical and electrical characteristics are maintained for the expected service life. Bends in conductors, multiconductor cables or assemblies of conductors shall be made so that the cable will not be damaged.

A nonshielded cable can tolerate a sharper bend than a shielded cable. This is especially true for cables having helically applied metallic shielding tapes which, when bent too sharply, can separate or buckle and cut into the insulation. Remember that offsets are bends.

The problem is compounded by the fact that most tapes are under jackets that conceal such damage. The extruded polymers used for insulation shields have sufficient conductivity and coverage initially to pass acceptance testing, then fail prematurely due to corona at the shield/insulation interface.

Minimum Bending Radius in Accordance with National Electric Code

Voltage	Conductors	Shielding	Cable Types	Minimum Bending Radius as a Multiple of Conductor/Assembly Diameter		
600V	Single	Nonshielded	All	5X		
601-2000V			All	8X		
600V or 2000V	Multiconductor or Multiplexed	Nonshielded	TC or TC-ER	1 in. (25 mm) or less	Over 1 in. to 2 in. (>25 mm to 50 mm)	Over 2 in. (>50 mm)
				4X	5X	6X
			MC ¹	7X		
		Shielded	All	12X		
			TC or TC-ER	12X		
MC	12X/7X ¹					

¹ Per 330.24B Interlocked-Type Armor or Corrugated Sheath.

Cord Product Coding System

Cord Packaging and Color Codes

Example:

02725.41.01

Product Number

Packaging Code Identification Numbers

CODE	PACKAGING	CODE	PACKAGING
15/R5	250' Spool	41	1000' Reel
18/R8	500' Spool	43	2000' Reel
21	1000' Spool	44	2500' Reel
24	2500' Spool	46	5000' Reel
35	250' Reel	85	250' Coil
38	500' Reel	99	LL Reel
40	LL Reel	XX	Shorts

Jacket Color Code Identification Numbers

CODE	COLOR	CODE	COLOR
01	Black	07	Blue
02	White	08	Brown
03	Red	10	Gray
04	Orange	13	Pink
05	Yellow	19	Purple
06	Green	77	Light Blue