

CABLE SPLICING—GENERAL

SERVICE CABLES

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1. GENERAL

1.01 Small size cables with rubber insulated conductors are available for making underground and buried connections to subscriber premises in place of drop wire. Such cables are generally designated as "service" cables.

1.02 The most common service cables are the one-pair and two-pair sizes but cables up to ten pairs are available. New service cables generally have 22-gauge tinned copper conductors but 19-gauge has been used in the past and may still be used occasionally.

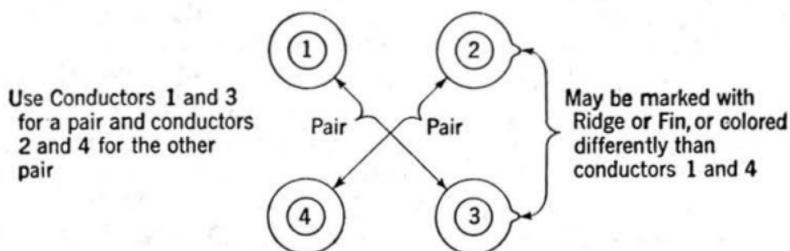
1.03 All conductor joints in service cables should be soldered to prevent the possible formation of corrosion films from the rubber insulation.

2. ARRANGEMENT OF PAIRS

2.01 **One-Pair Cable.** In some of the older one-pair cables the conductors are insulated with distinctively colored rubber insulation. In the newer cables, both conductors have black-rubber insulation but one of the conductors is distinguished by a longitudinal ridge or fin in the rubber insulation.

2.02 **Two-Pair Cables.** In the two-pair cable, the four conductors are not assembled as two twisted pairs but are twisted into a spiral-four. The conductors for a pair are not adjacent but are opposite to each other. In some of the older cables, two adjacent conductors are insulated with rubber that is distinctively colored from the other two conductors. In the newer cables, all four conductors are insulated with black rubber but two adjacent conductors have a longitudinal ridge

or fin in the insulation. In all cases the pairing is done by selecting conductors that are opposite each other, as shown in the following diagram.



2.03 **Three to Ten-Pair Cable.** In cables containing three to ten pairs, each pair is a twisted pair with black rubber insulation on the conductors. One conductor in each pair has a longitudinal ridge or fin in the rubber insulation.