

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G50.634.3
Issue 1, May, 1948
AT&T Co Standard

CABLE SPLICING—GENERAL

TWISTED BUTT JOINT

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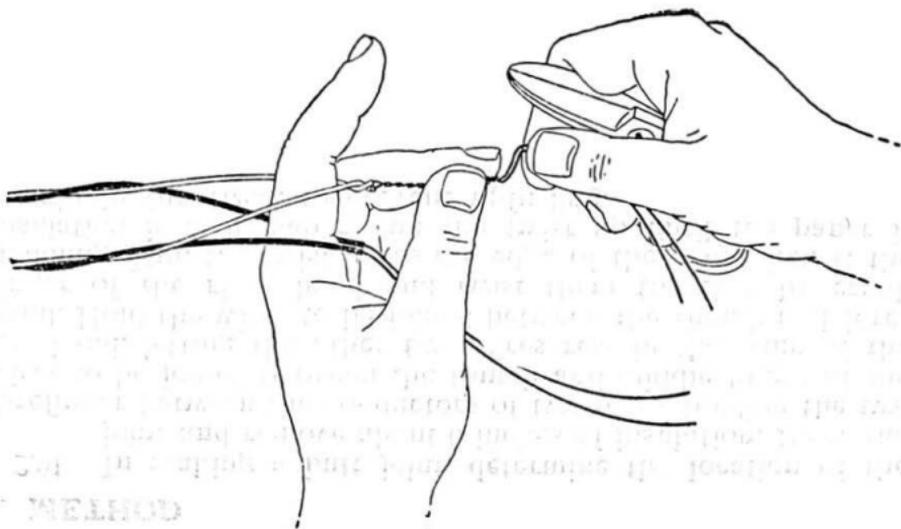
1. GENERAL

1.01 This section describes the method of joining 16-gauge and smaller pairs or quadded conductors by means of a twisted butt joint.

1.02 The butt joint is used to join conductors coming from the same side of a splice. It is sometimes referred to as back splicing in contrast to straight splicing in which the conductors come from opposite sides of the splice.

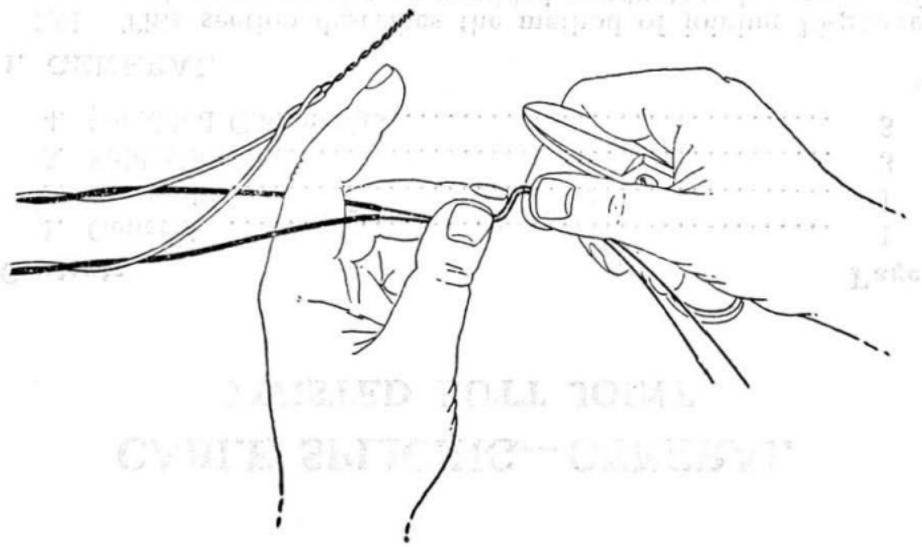
2. METHOD

2.01 In making a butt joint, determine the location of the joint and remove about 6 inches of insulation. Place the forefinger between the conductors of two pairs, holding the two wires to be joined between the thumb and middle finger of the left hand, letting the other two wires rest in the palm of the hand. Hold the wires to be joined between the thumb and forefinger of the right hand and twist them together by crank handling. Run the twist up to the edge of the insulation. If the insulation is strip paper, run the twist up until the paper is caught in the twist, to prevent unfurling.



W METHOD

2.02 Cut the pigtail off square so that it will have a length of about 1-1/2 inches. Push the completed joint aside and twist the joint in the other two wires.



2.03 After both joints have been completed, place a cotton sleeve over each joint and twist the sleeves together. The sleeves need not be twisted the entire length but should be twisted sufficiently to hold the pair together.



3. SOLDERING

3.01 If the butt joints are to be soldered it is advisable to complete twisting about six pairs or three quads and to spread the conductors fan-wise to facilitate soldering.

4. QUADDED CONDUCTORS

4.01 Quadded conductors of 16 or smaller gauge are butt spliced in the same way as paired conductors. If difficulty is experienced in twisting the four cotton sleeves together, it will be satisfactory to leave them straight and to tie them together by means of a piece of cotton sleeving or cord.