BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction and Maintenance

SECTION G53.055.1
Issue 1, May, 1952
AT&T Co Standard

BLOCK AND HOUSE CABLE
ORDERING CABLE AND OTHER MATERIALS

Contents **Page**

1. GENERAL

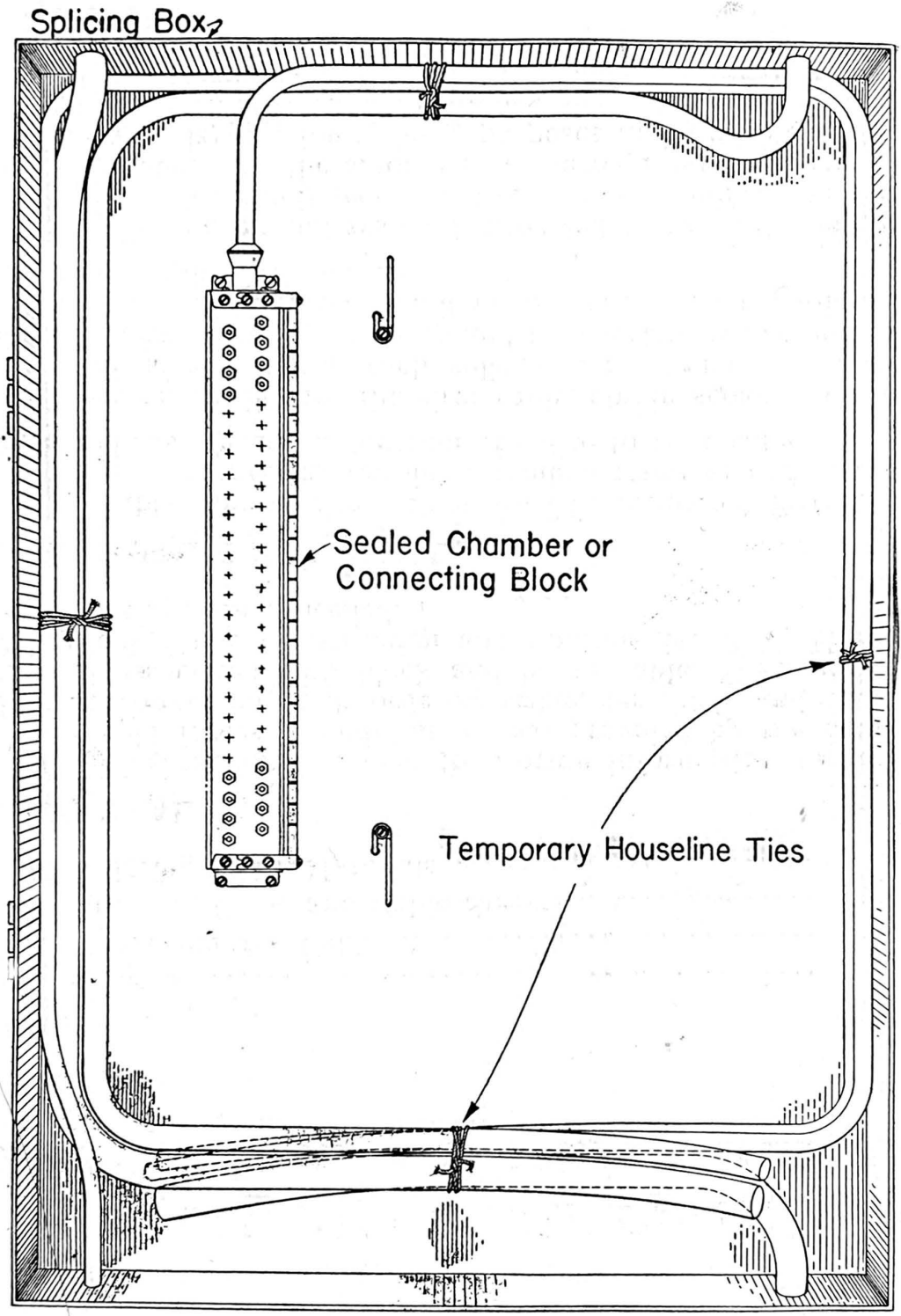
1.01 This section is issued to provide information for the field forces in addition to that provided by the detail plans in connection with ordering cable, terminals and other material associated with block and house cable. Specification 3931, Block Cable Construction and Specification 3933, House Cable Placing, are cancelled.

2. MEASURING FOR CABLE

2.01 Cable runs to riser cables shall be measured from the cross-connecting terminal, terminal frame or end of the block or house feeder to location of splice to riser cable.

2.02 In measuring for the riser cable, obtain separately the distance between each splice location, making allowances for any special cable setup and for overlaps which, unless otherwise specified in the detail plans shall be in accordance with Paragraphs 2.05 and 2.06.

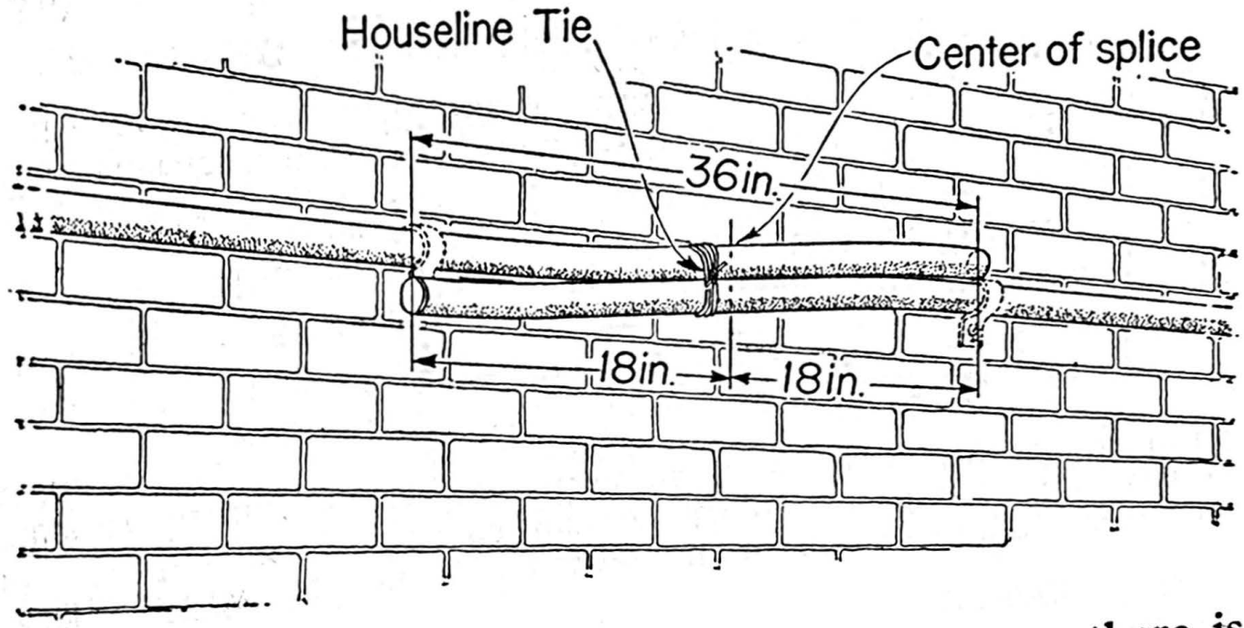
2.03 Where a conduit system is provided, measure the length of each conduit section between splicing boxes and add to this measurement the amount of cable required, as shown in the following layout, for splicing purposes and future maintenance and rearrangements. Allowance shall also be made for core hitches when required for pulling cable.


Splicing Box
Sealed Chamber or
Connecting Block
Temporary Houseline Ties

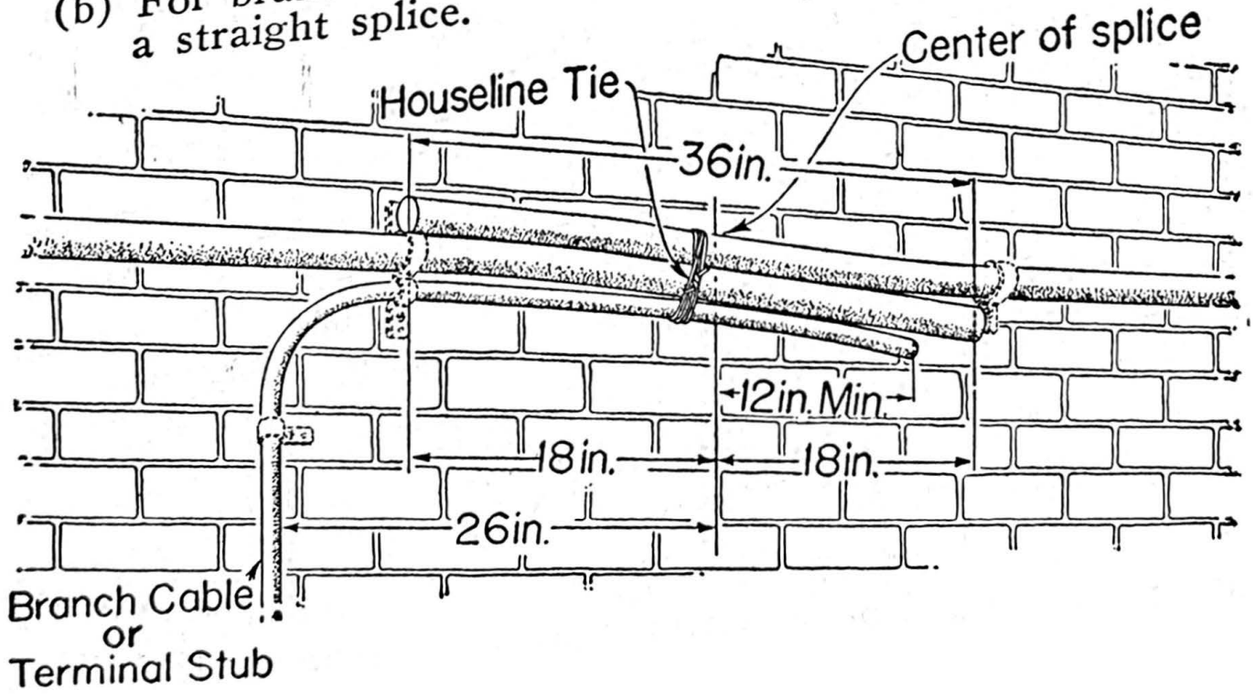
2.04 Measure for floor stubs from location of the splice in the riser cable to the first splice in the stub cable. Where there is a splice in the distribution run, measure distance between location of splice and location of terminal. When the floor cable stub terminates in a terminal, measure from the location of the splice in the riser cable to the terminal.

2.05 Overlaps required for splicing shall be 36 inches for all sizes and types of cable and shall be made as illustrated below. The cable clamps are shown dotted to indicate their location on completion of splicing work.

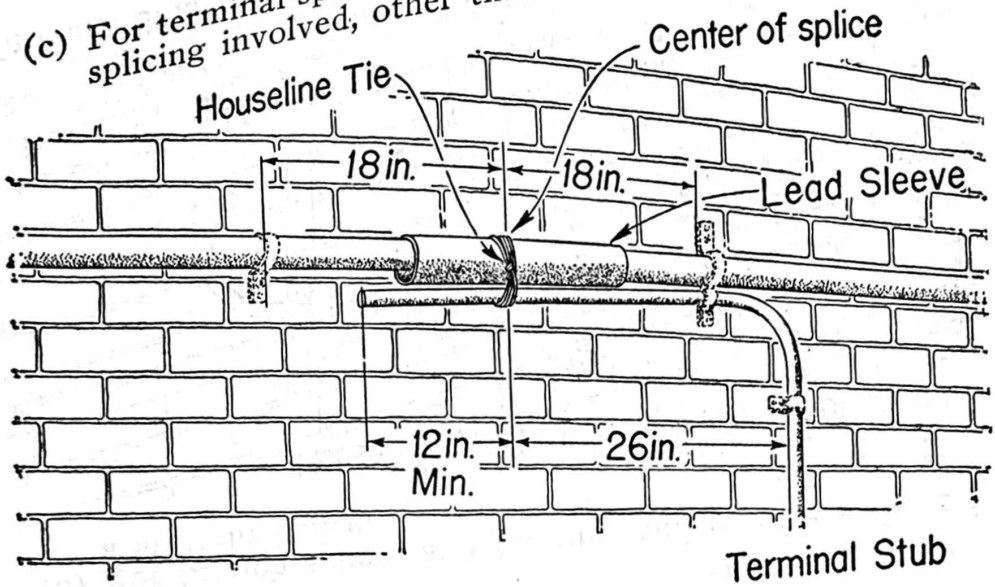
(a) For straight splices.



(b) For branch splices and terminal splices where there is a straight splice.



(c) For terminal splices where there is no straight or bridge splicing involved, other than the terminal splice.



2.06 Allow for overlap in measuring and ordering cable in all cases where cables are to be spliced except where stubs or branches of the following sizes are spliced to main cable.

Size of Main House Cable	Size of Branch or Terminal Stub Cable
26-51-76 pairs	16 pairs or less
101-152 pairs	26 pairs or less
202 pairs	51 pairs or less

In these cases, allow for overlap in branch or stub cable only, as the main cable will not be cut.

3. ORDERING CABLE AND CABLE SLEEVES

3.01 In ordering cable, the following points shall be kept in mind in addition to any other details covered in local instructions.

(a) Code, size of cable and length of each section.
(b) End of splices that stubs are to enter.
(c) Cable ends to be taped or soldered.
(d) Whether stubs are to be tested and tagged.
(e) Specify when cable is to be tied to strand.

3.02 It is generally advantageous to do as much cable splicing work as the job will permit before placing the cable, particularly on riser cables, which should be delivered on the job tied to the suspension strand ready for installation.

3.03 When arrangements have been made for tying the cable to the strand in advance of shipment to the job, a list showing the length, size and gauge of cable and size of strand, should be furnished. A sample list is shown below:

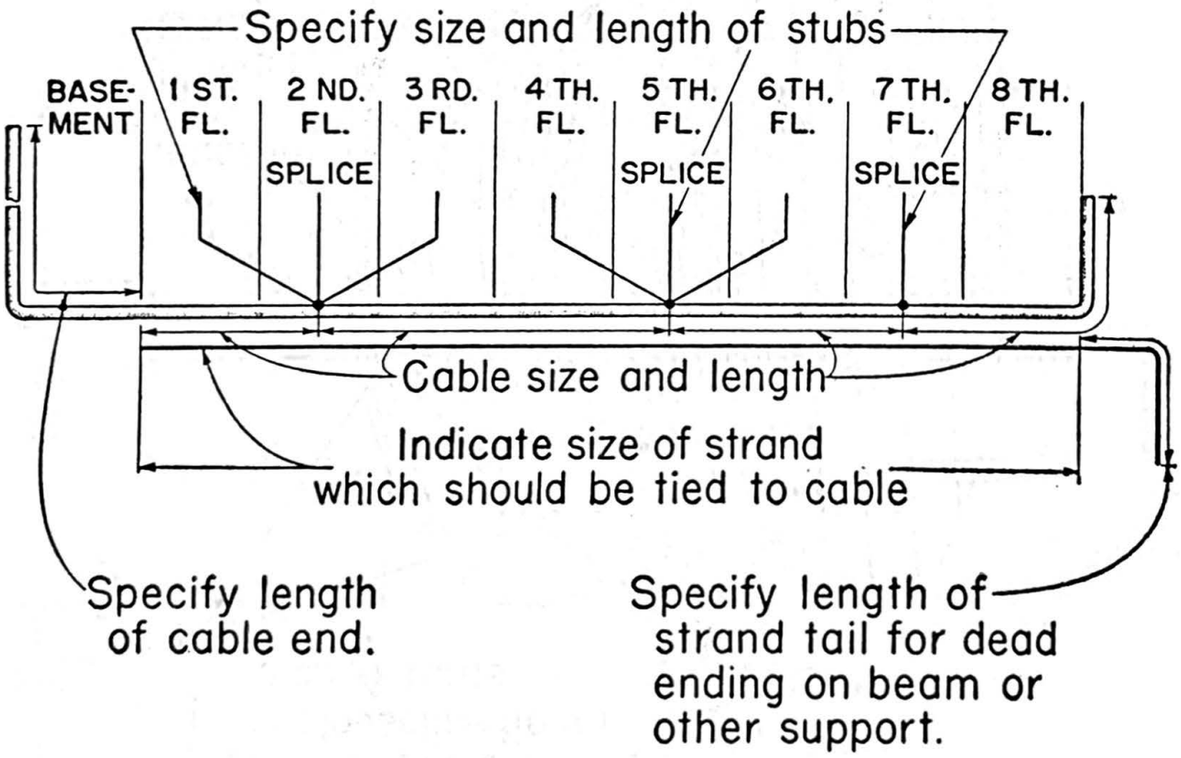
FURNISH CABLE TIED TO STRAND AS FOLLOWS

Date..... Estimate, Routine Order or C.W.O..... Location.....

Size of cable	Overall Length	Length of cable to be tied	Length of cable ends to be tied, if any	Size of strand	Length of strand inc. dead ends
152 pr.26ga.	167 ft.	140 ft.	12 ft. upper end 15 ft. lower end	6000 pound	150 feet
101 pr.26ga.	80 ft.	72 ft.	8 ft. upper end	2200 pound	80 feet

Note: Indicate which end of cable should be wound first on cable reel or coil, so that cable can be unwound in proper placing order.

3.04 Where cable splices and stubs are involved, a sketch showing the cable layout and other details of the job, should be provided. A sample sketch is shown below.



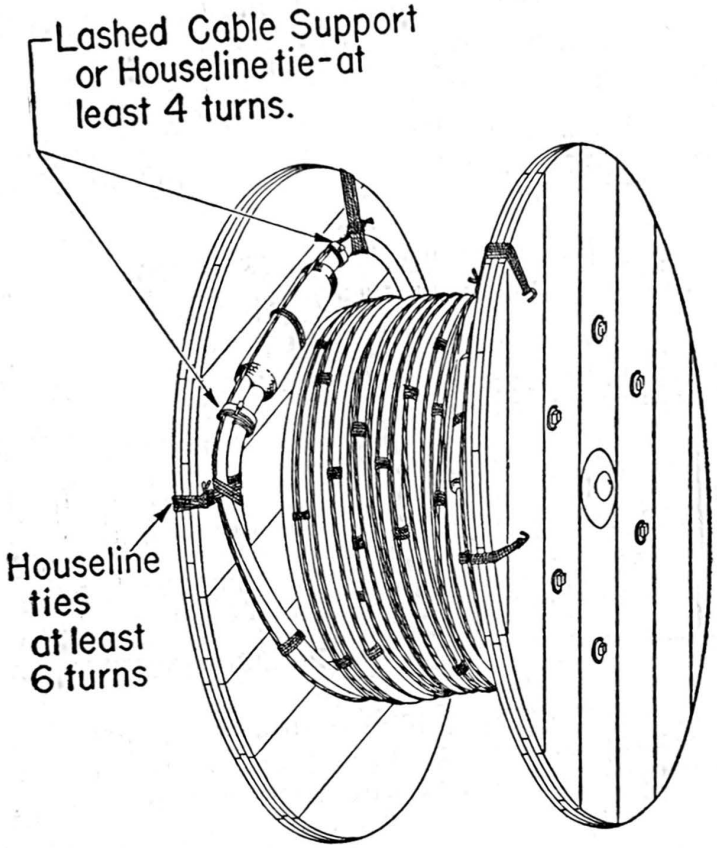
3.05 Cable orders should indicate whether it is to be delivered on the job on reels or in coils. The factors to be considered in determining how the cable should be supplied to the job are:

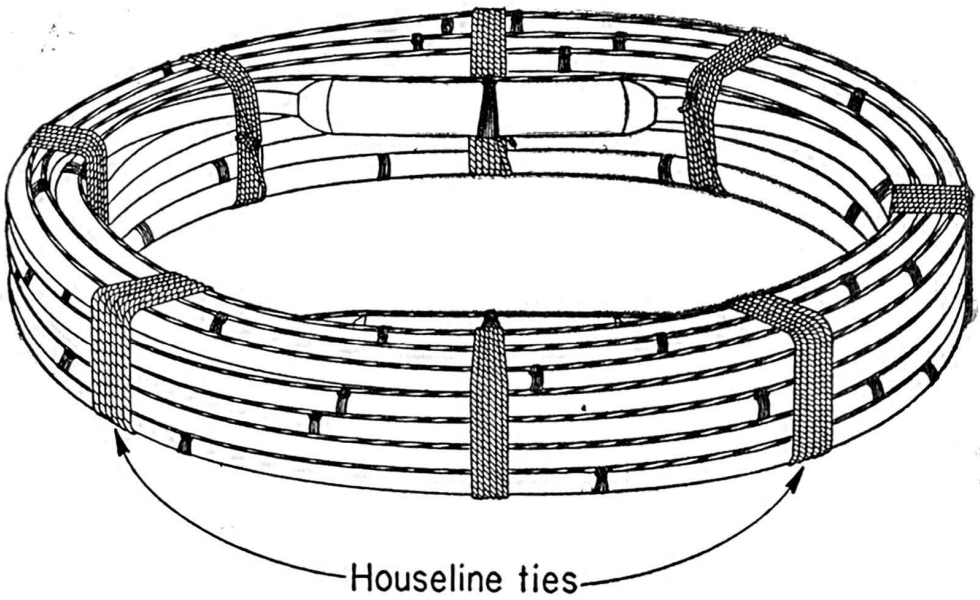
(a) Length and size of cable.

(b) Conditions existing on the job.

3.06 In general, cables splices and tied to the suspension strand ready for placing, should be delivered to the job on appropriate cable reels. Reels measuring not more than

20 inches in width overall, are particularly suitable for this purpose as they can be conveniently passed through doors and halls. Cable may be delivered in coils of approximately 200 pounds, for safe handling. Splices, if any, must be securely tied to the coil or fastened to the sides of the cable reel in order to prevent the cable bending close to the splice.





3.07 The weight, diameter and other information regarding the various types of cable are included in Bell System Practices covering Cable Sizes and Reel Lengths.

4. ORDERING OTHER MATERIALS

4.01 Outside Terminals. Order the number of terminals of each size and type indicated on the detail plans. Specify length of stub required with each terminal. In determining the length of stub to be ordered, consider:

(a) Distance from terminal to terminal splice.

(b) Length of overlap required to make splice.

4.02 Inside Terminals and Chambers. The types and sizes of inside distributing terminals and cross-connecting terminals, binding post and fuse chambers, etc., are described in Bell System Practices covering Inside Distribution Terminals and Inside Cross-Connecting Terminals.

4.03 Information regarding the use of the various sizes of sleeves available, is included in Bell System Practices covering Cable Splicing—General, Lead Sleeves.

4.04 Where alpeth sheath cable or alpeth sheath and lead sheath cable splices are involved, the information regarding the sizes of lead sleeves to be used is included in Bell System Practices covering Cable Splicing—General Information—Lead Sleeves and Cable Splicing—General, Alpeth Sheath Splices.

4.05 The kinds and amounts of other material necessary to complete a specific job may be determined approximately from the number of feet of cable to be placed and the type of construction involved.