

What materials are best for mobile optical cables



AI Overview

High-performance mobile optical cables typically use ultra-pure silica glass cores with protective polymer coatings and flexible, durable jackets to ensure signal integrity, mechanical strength, and environmental resistance.

Core and Cladding Materials

The core and cladding of optical fibers are usually made from ultra-pure silica (SiO_2), often doped with germanium or phosphorus to control the refractive index for efficient light transmission and minimal signal loss. This material provides high bandwidth, low attenuation, and long-distance transmission, making it ideal for mobile applications where signal quality is critical. For short-distance or budget-sensitive setups, plastic optical fibers can be used, offering greater flexibility and easier handling, though with lower performance over long distances.

Protective Coatings

To protect the fragile glass core, fibers are coated with dual-layer UV-cured acrylate: a soft primary coating to absorb microbending stress and a hard secondary coating for mechanical protection. These coatings enhance durability during installation and repeated movement, which is common in mobile environments.

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For more information, pricing, or custom solutions, please contact us:

Website: <https://ntmmgroup.co.za>

Email: sales@ntmmgroup.co.za

Phone: +27 82 471 2596

Address: Unit 7, Optic Park, 24 High-Tech Lane, Century City, Cape Town, 7441, South Africa

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