

Phone Wire Color Codes

For an explanation of the color codes, click [here](#).
 For a terrific history of the telephone visit <http://www.privateline.com>

Developed in the early 1940s, (* see note at bottom) this color code uses only 10 colors divided into 5 group colors and 5 pair colors.

	Tip +	Ring -	
1st group White			
blue			1st pair
orange			2nd pair
green			3rd pair
brown			4th pair
slate			5th pair

	Tip +	Ring -	
2nd group Red			
blue			6th pair
orange			7th pair
green			8th pair
brown			9th pair
slate			10th pair

	Tip +	Ring -	
3rd group Black			
blue			11th pair
orange			12th pair
green			13th pair
brown			14th pair
slate			15th pair

	Tip +	Ring -	
4th group Yellow			
blue			16th pair
orange			17th pair
green			18th pair
brown			19th pair
slate			20th pair

	Tip +	Ring -	
5th group Violet			
blue			21st pair
orange			22nd pair
green			23rd pair
brown			24th pair

This solid color code actually goes up to 25 pair. It is so old now, I can't find a complete reference to it any more.

	Tip +	Ring -	
Old Color Code			
green			red
black			yellow
white			blue
brown			orange
?			?

Ethernet Color Codes



Click for enlargement

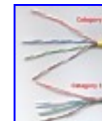
Pin	Functn	Pair	Color A*	Color B*
1	TX+	2		
2	TX-	2		
3	RX+	3		
4		1		
5		1		
6	RX-	3		
7		4		
8		4		

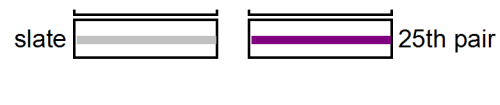
Function refers to NIC (network card) pins

* It doesn't matter whether you use type A or B as long as you use the same type throughout your network

Catagory 3, catagory 5, what's the difference?

Click for more info



**(Note)**

Jim Stettler wrote me in November of 2001 with the following comments. Thanks Jim.

"I used to have a telephone manual from the late 30's-early 40's that had the standard (current) Color code. The determining factor for using the colors that they did, had to do with the ease of identification along with the availability of dyes for cloth cordage. IE they wanted cheap easy to use dyes that were easy to identify." .

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