

## Ribbon Cable and Ribbon Cable Assembly

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**When a flat cable made of several conducting wires run next to each other this is known as ribbon cable. Find out more about ribbon cable and ribbon cable assembly.**

The cables themselves are flat and flexible and are comprised of many conductors. Ribbon cable is typically flat and rectangular in shape. Large amounts of data can be rapidly transmitted via signals through ribbon cable and the connectors which join the cable to the system.

In a standard ribbon cable connector there are many female slots which are arranged in a tight line, these are sized so they line up with the pins on the hardware device.

### **Where is Ribbon Cable Used?**

[Ribbon cable](#) is useful when there is limited space and as are commonly used within computer hardware to connect disk drives to the disk drive controllers.

In older computers they were used for external connections too, however their rectangular shape made them awkward to manoeuvre so they have been mostly replaced by round cables.

### **Ribbon Cable Size and Coding**

If the connections were mistakenly reversed this could damage the hardware so manufacturers have created ribbon cable with colour codes. A rainbow ribbon cable uses a standard set of colours which align to a certain pin.

Ribbon cables are mainly specified by the pitch of the conductors and the number of conductors it has fitted.

The most common pitch used typically in interconnection equipment is 1.27mm as it means a two row connector has a pin spacing of 2.54mm.

### **Ribbon Cable Manufacturers and Distributors UK**

Hunter Cable Assembly Ltd is a specialist manufacturer and distributor of ribbon cable and other wiring products. They build to order these products for the customer's specific wiring needs.

Visit [www.hcal.co.uk](http://www.hcal.co.uk) for more information and to discuss your requirements in more detail.

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