

Strands and cables

Configuration and calculation guide



Strands

Every strand or cable begins with the same basic ingredient: wire. When several wires are wrapped together, they form a strand.



Understanding cable naming conventions

When we list cable constructions, there are several factors that create the information you see. Let's break it down.

BARE CABLE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (8)

Tungsten 7 x 37 x 0.001; 0.021 / 0.019 x 12.00 in | hard as drawn black

- (1) TUNGSTEN Alloy
- (2) 7 Number of strands equals 7 (6) 0.019 IN "/" decrease in
- 3 **37** Each single strand consists
- of 37 wires (4) 0.001 IN Individual
- diameter denoting swaged cable (7) 12.00 IN Discrete cut length (8) HARD Condition homogeneous wire diameter (9) AS DRAWN BLACK Finish

diameter denoting coated cable

(8) **PFA CLEAR** Type of coating

(7) HARD Condition

(5) 0.021 IN Bare cable diameter

9

COATED CABLE

(1) (2) (3) (4) 5 6 7 8

304V 7 x 7 x 0.0016; 0.0144 / 0.035 in | hard PFA clear 5 0.0144 IN Bare cable diameter

- 1 304V Alloy
- (2) 7 Number of strands equals 7 (6) 0.035 IN "/" increase in
- 3 7 Each single strand consists of 7 wires
- (4) 0.0016 IN Individual homogeneous wire diameter

1st order cables

3×3 3×19 3×7

A 1st order cable is simply made of several strands that are

wrapped together, forming a cable in its most basic form.

3 × cable (1st) options

7 × cable (1st) options



1 × 19 + 8 (1 × 7) option



1×19 + 8 (1×7)

2nd order cables

A 2nd order cable is made of other cables, which are made of strands.

3 × cable (2nd) options



7 × cable (2nd) options



7×3×7

7x7x3

3rd order cables

A 3rd order cable is made of a cable, which is made of strands, with more strands wrapped around it.

19 × cable (3rd) options





7 × 7 + 8 (1 × 19) cable (3rd) option



^{7×7+8 (1×19)}

4th order cables

A 4th order cable is made of a 3rd order cable, with more strands wrapped around it.

37 × cable (4th) options





37×37

7 × 19 + 9 (1 × 37) cable (4th) option



Calculate the possibilities

The chart below can help you find missing pieces of information by using what you already know. You can also use it to find out how many wires are in each construction.

To find the size of each wire, take the overall diameter of your wire construction and divide it by the multiplier found in the chart below. This will give you the size of each individual wire.

To find the overall diameter of your strand or cable when you only know the size of each individual wire, draw a line horizontally through the center of the strand and count the number of wires from one end to the other. Take that number and multiply it by the individual wire size.

Construction	Wire count	Multiplier (D)
Monofilament	1	1
1×2	2	2
1×3	3	2.15
1×7	7	3
3+9	12	4.15
1×19	19	5
1×37	37	7
3×3	9	4.62
3×7	21	6.45
7×3	21	6.45
7×7	49	9
3×19	57	10.75
1×19+8(1×7)	75	11
7×(3+9)	84	12.45
7×19	133	15
7×37	259	21
3×3×3	27	9.94
3×3×7	63	13.87
3×7×3	63	13.87
7×3×3	63	13.87
7×3×7	147	19.35
7×7×3	147	19.35
7×7×7	343	27
19×7	133	15
7×7+8(1×19)	201	19
19×19	361	25
7×19+9(1×37)	466	29
19×37	703	35
37×7	259	21
37×19	703	35
37×37	1369	49

7×19+9 (1×37)

Strength and flexibility

Use the graph below to compare strength and flexibility for various strand and cable constructions. Typically, gaining strength means compromising flexibility, and vice versa. Strength refers to how much weight the construction can hold, and flexibility refers to how much it can bend without permanent deformation.



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