

# Optical Fiber Connector Color Codes

## AEN 47, Revision 3

Although like connector types can be similar in appearance, performance differences may exist between the connectors that are important for the user to understand. Therefore, differentiation and identification of connectorized optical jumpers is required. Techniques that are used to designate performance include color coding of the connector shroud and the connector boot.

Some lasers used in transmission end equipment are sensitive to reflected power. In some high-speed digital and analog systems, too much reflected power can degrade system performance. Therefore, in manufacturing, the physical contact characteristics of single-mode connectors are controlled to provide different levels of reflectance performance. This necessitates an easy way to identify the performance of the optical jumpers.

The following tables show the different multimode fibers and single-mode performance levels, and their methods of identification.

Multimode			
Fiber Core	Optical Fiber Designation	Shroud Color*	Boot Color*
50 µm	ClearCurve® OM3 / OM4	Black	Aqua
	ClearCurve® OM2	Black	Black
62.5 µm	MM OM1	Beige	Black

\* Applicable for Corning Optical Communications cable assemblies with SC, MT-RJ, LC and MTP® connectors

Single-mode		
Boot Color	Reflectance Value	Nomenclature
Blue	-55 dB	Ultra PC
Green	-65 dB	Angled PC

In addition to the colors noted above which are typical in the telecommunications industry, manufacturers can offer a variety of boot, connector and adapter colors. For more information on reflectance, see Corning Optical Communications Applications Engineering Note 149, "Optical Return Loss vs Back Reflectance."