CablePedia
Cable related key words explained

Assembled	Simplest design of cable assembly, without a booted or moulded connector.
AWG	Stands for American Wire Gauge which denotes the dimension if the copper wire used within the cable.
Base Unit	This is the transmitting unit of a signal, usually paired with a remote unit to receive the signal.
BNC	This is a coaxial cable connector often used for CCTV units.
Booted	This refers to the plastic cover over the RJ45 (Ethernet) connector. This prevents the connector from snagging and breaking.
Cat5e	Stands for Category 5 Enhanced which is the international standard that manufacturers work to. Cat5e usually offers speeds up to 100Mhz
Cat6	Stands for Category 6 which is the international standard that manufacturers work to. Cat6 offers speeds up to 550Mhz. Cat6 usually offers speeds up to 250Mhz
Cat6a	Stands for Augmented Category 6 usually offering speeds up to 500Mhz.
Centronics	This is a serial connector, mainly used for printers.
Coax	Otherwise referred to as coaxial cable. This has a central conductor with an outside shielded conductor. By conductor, we mean the metal that allows a signal to be sent.
Component	Component video is an analogue format based on a 3-wire construction with RCA type connectors. Well suited for multiple A/V applications. This is a versatile interface that supports image quality up to 1080i.

Composite	Composite video is a 75-Ohm interface, and carries both luminance and chrominance information on a single coaxial cable. Durable and inexpensive, composite video has a maximum resolution of about 400 lines.
Crossover	A crossover Ethernet cable allows for direct connections between two machines without the need of a switch or server.
Crosstalk	Interference within the same cable.
Daisy Chain	A connection of multiple cables linked into one another in a 'chain' like fashion to obtain the distance required.
DB	Often referred to as D-Sub, it stands for D-subminiature. This is a connection type for serial connectors. The letter D denotes the connector shape and the number classifies the cables according to how many pins it has.
DIN	This is a type of analogue connection used in A/V and data.
DisplayPort	DisplayPort is an interface technology that is designed to connect high graphic capable PCs to displays, as well as home theatre equipment and displays.
Double Shielded	Refers to shielding on the internal cabling as well as the external jacket that surrounds all wires.
Dual Link	This refers to the speed the cable is capable of, usually limited by the quality of the copper within the cable. Dual Link is used more often with High definition displays.
Duplex	Refers to two strands of fibre within a fibre cable.
DVI-A	Stands for Digital Video Interface – Analogue.
DVI-D	Stands for Digital Video Interface – Digital.
DVI-I	Stands for Digital Video Interface – Interlace (Both digital and analogue).
EMI	Stands for Electro-Magnetic Interference.
Ferrite	This is a metal that goes around a cable to reduce interference.

Foil & Braid	Refers to the materials used in the shielding of the cable. Foil, in most cases is aluminium. The braid is most often strands of aluminium that form a mesh around the wire inside the cable.
HD15	The technical name for a connection on a VGA cable. Commonly known as a VGA connection.
IEEE	Stands for Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. This is a regulatory body that issues standards for manufacturers to adhere to. Cables are often categorised by the number associated with this.
Jack	The male connector most commonly referred to as a jack with audio connections.
Jacket	The plastic that surrounds the cable.
KVM	Stands for Keyboard, Video and Mouse. i.e. a KVM switch would allow you to control multiple machines using only one keyboard, mouse and monitor.
LC	A type of fibre connection, this is the more modern fibre connector.
LFH	Stands for Low Force Helix. This is a type of connector that is commonly used on graphics cards. Also known as DMS-59 which is a Molex connector.
LSZH	This stands for Low Smoke Zero Halogen, which refers to the emissions released if the plastic is burnt (also referred to as LS0H).
M1	A connector commonly used with projectors.
Moulded	This means that the cable jacket is moulded to the connector giving a firmer connection.
Multimode	Denotes the build of the core fibre which is used with laser and LED fibre products.
Ohm	This is the measurement of resistance between two points of a conductor.
Parallel	This is a data cable often used to connect printers or modems to machines.
PC-99	Refers to a colour coding scheme for connectors and ports.
Plug & Play	This refers to the lack of software needed to use a product so you can literally plug it in and play.

RCA	Is another type of coaxial connector used in A/V.
Remote Unit	This is the receiving unit, usually paired with a base unit to transmit the signal.
RFI	Stands for Radio Frequency Interference.
RS232	Recommended Standard 232 which is used with serial connections. Mostly with DB9 or DB25.
SC	A type of fibre connection.
Shielded	Shielded refers to the protection against EMI/RFI. This is normally foil shielded in cabling.
Simplex	Refers to a single strand of fibre within a fibre cable.
Single Link	This refers to the speed the cable is capable of, usually limited by the quality of the copper within the cable.
Singlemode	Denotes the build of the core fibre which is used with visible light fibre products.
Snagless	Please see booted.
ST	A type of fibre connection.
STP	Stands for Shielded Twisted Pair.
SVGA	A display mode for a HD15 connection. This supports a resolution of up to 1024 x 768.
SXGA	(Super eXtended Graphics Array) A display mode for a HD15 connection offering a resolution of 1280 x 1024. For use with high resolution monitors and projectors.
Toslink	Fibre optic cables use light to deliver the digital signal, eliminating the risk of signal interference.
Twisted Pairs	Two wires that are twisted together to make the internal structure of a cable. For example: Ethernet cables contain 4 twisted pairs therefore there are 8 individual wires within the cable.
UTP	Stands for Unshielded Twisted Pair.
UXGA	(Ultra eXtended Graphics Array) A display mode for a HD15 connection offering a resolution of 1600 x 1200. Ideal for connecting to a high definition TV, monitor or projector.

VGA	A display mode for a HD15 connection. This supports up to 640 x 480 resolution. This is often used as blanket term for HD15 connections.
WSXGA	(Wide Super eXtended Graphics Array) Another display mode for a HD15 connection. Offers a resolution of 1680 x 1050 and is commonly used on widescreen LCD monitors.
XGA	(eXtended Graphics Array) This is another display mode for a HD15 connection. Offering a resolution of 1024 x 768, providing an increased resolution over SVGA.