



Standard Wire & Cable Co.

MIL-W-16878 Cable Designation

All MIL-W-16878 and MIL-DTL-16878 cables are designated by a six field code that indicates the exact construction of each cable. Please note the following example of a MIL-W-16878/5-DCB-2 or MIL-DTL-16878-DCB-2 cables.

Cable Description: MIL-W-16878/5 -DCB-2

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

Prefix (1): All MIL-W-16878 cables will carry this prefix.

Specification Number (2): This number code position identifies the type, voltage rating, insulation, nominal wall thickness, conductor coating, and maximum temperature rating of the cable.

Conductor Material (3): This letter code position identifies the material the conductor is made of.

Conductor Size (4): This letter code position identifies the wire size.

Conductor Stranding (5): This letter code position identifies the conductor stranding.

Color Code (6): This number designates the color of the insulation material.

Specification Number

Military Specification	Type	Voltage Rating (RMS)	Insulation	Nominal Wall Thickness		Conductor Coating *	Temp. Rating Max. (°C)
				(in)	(mm)		
MIL-DTL-16878 /1	B	600	PVC	0.01	0.254	Tin	105
MIL-DTL-16878 /2	C	1,000	PVC	0.015	0.381	Tin	105
MIL-DTL-16878 /3	D	3,000	PVC	0.03	0.762	Tin	105
MIL-W-16878 /4 NEMA HP-3	E	600	PTFE	0.01	0.254	Silver	200
MIL-W-16878 /5 NEMA HP-3	EE	1,000	PTFE	0.015	0.381	Silver	200
MIL-W-16878 /6 NEMA HP-3	ET	250	PTFE	0.006	0.152	Silver	200
MIL-W-16878 /11 NEMA HP-4	K	600	FEP	0.01	0.254	Silver	200
MIL-W-16878 /12 NEMA HP-4	KK	1,000	FEP	0.015	0.381	Silver	200
MIL-W-16878 /13 NEMA HP-4	KT	250	FEP	0.006	0.152	Silver	200
MIL-DTL-16878 /17	BN	600	PVC / Nylon	0.01	0.254	Tin	105 / 115
MIL-DTL-16878 /18	CN	1000	PVC / Nylon	0.015	0.381	Tin	105 / 115
MIL-DTL-16878 /19	DN	3000	PVC / Nylon	0.03	0.762	Tin	105 / 115
MIL-W-16878 /20 NEMA HP-3		250	PTFE tape	0.006	0.152	Silver	200
MIL-W-16878 /21 NEMA HP-3		600	PTFE tape	0.01	0.254	Silver	200
MIL-W-16878 /22 NEMA HP-3		1,000	PTFE tape	0.015	0.381	Silver	200
MIL-W-16878 /23 NEMA HP-3	ET	250	PTFE	0.006	0.152	Nickel	260
MIL-W-16878 /24 NEMA HP-3		250	PTFE tape	0.006	0.152	Nickel	260
MIL-W-16878 /25 NEMA HP-3	E	600	PTFE	0.01	0.254	Nickel	260
MIL-W-16878 /26 NEMA HP-3		600	PTFE tape	0.01	0.254	Nickel	260
MIL-W-16878 /27 NEMA HP-3	EE	1,000	PTFE	0.015	0.381	Nickel	260
MIL-W-16878 /28 NEMA HP-3		1,000	PTFE tape	0.015	0.381	Nickel	260

* Coatings are those listed in the Military Specification, others available upon request.

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Conductor Material	
B	coated copper
C	coated copper covered steel
D	coated high strength copper alloy
E	coated copper with overall metallic coating

Conductor Size	
Letter	AWG
A	32
B	30
C	28
D	26
E	24
F	22
G	20
H	18
J	16
K	14
L	12
M	10
N	8
P	6
R	4
S	2
T	1
U	0
W	00
Y	000
Z	0000

Conductor Stranding	
Letter	Number of Strands
A	1 (solid)
B	7
C	10
D	16
E	19
F	26
G	37
H	41
J	65
K	105
L	133
M	168
N	259
P	665
R	817
S	1,045
T	1,330
V	1,672
W	2,109

Color Code	
Number Designation	Color
0	black
1	brown
2	red
3	orange
4	yellow
5	green
6	blue
7	violet (purple)
8	gray (slate)
9	white

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