

How long will optical fiber cables be phased out



Overview

In summary, quality optical fiber and fiber optic cable have no known expiration date. Fiber scalability and longevity are intensely technical topics. Fiber optic cables offer unmatched speed and bandwidth capabilities, transmitting data at the speed of light. This high performance is crucial for supporting modern. The rollout of Fibre Optic Broadband has taken longer than anticipated, but BT Openreach has announced that Copper will be phased out altogether by 2025. This is a massive project and it will have a knock-on effect for businesses, this is why BT Openreach has announced their plans over six years in. The longevity of fiber optic cabling infrastructure has already exceeded 35 years since the first deployments and we expect the average lifetime will be much longer than 35 years based on the materials, technologies, and manufacturing processes used to produce modern, high quality optical fiber and. Openreach has announced that copper-based services will no longer be sold in 163 new areas, affecting nearly one million homes and businesses. If you're wondering what this means for you, here's a breakdown of what's happening and why. A rapid expansion of the fiber-optic network is essential to meet the challenge of increasing data consumption and to avoid network.



Article Content

Jan 28, 2026

The Shift from Copper Networks to Fiber-Optic Networks

Building out and deploying fiber networks relatively rapidly lets telcos thwart rivals' attempts to pick off customers. This strategy requires a three-phase

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Openreach "switching off" copper broadband in 163 more

Openreach has announced that copper-based services will no longer be sold in 163 new areas, affecting nearly one million homes and businesses. If

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Fiber-optic cable

A fiber-optic cable, also known as an optical-fiber cable, is an assembly similar to an electrical cable but containing one or more optical fibers that are used to carry

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Copper vs Fiber Optic Cable Migration | Upgrading

Copper vs fiber optic cable? Learn why the time is now to replace copper with fiber optic cabling to upgrade the network infrastructure.

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Tech Transition: Modernizing Communications Services

This nationwide effort is often called the tech transition. As part of the transition, telephone and Internet providers will retire aging copper-line networks used to

Jul 03, 2025

7 Key Fiber Broadband Industry Trends to Follow in 2025

From multi-gigabit speeds to open-access models, smart cities and AI-driven cybersecurity, these are the fiber broadband industry trends to watch in 2025.

May 27, 2026

Cable's Continuing Shift to Fiber

Cable's Continuing Shift to Fiber With net broadband subscribers down year after year due to fixed wireless and new fiber projects, cable providers

Feb 20, 2026

Should Copper Cables Be Phased Out in the Last Mile?

It is commonly held by industry and government that copper cable should be phased out in favor of an all fiber network or wireless. Conversely, fiber optics has been in use for decades without displacing

Feb 06, 2026

Fiber-optic communication

Modern fiber-optic communication systems generally include optical transmitters that convert electrical signals into optical signals, optical fiber cables to carry the

Jun 07, 2026

5 things you need to know about the BT Copper to Fibre

The rollout of Fibre Optic Broadband has taken longer than anticipated, but BT Openreach has announced that Copper will be phased out altogether by 2025.

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Future is Fiber | Cable Industry Challenges to Adapting

Learn about the challenges facing the cable industry and how Corning is lowering deployment barriers and helping deploy faster, cheaper, and better

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The State Of The North American Fiber Deployment -

RVA, LLC. has developed a report on North American fiber deployment, which outlines the significant advancements and challenges in the industry as of 2024.

Nov 19, 2025

Fiber Broadband Scalability and Longevity

The longevity of fiber optic cabling infrastructure has already exceeded 35 years since the first deployments and we expect the average lifetime will be much longer than 35 years based on the

Aug 04, 2025

Fiber infrastructure has no known expiration date, Fiber Broadband ...

The white paper concludes that, due to fiber optic cable's high levels of scalability and longevity, fiber broadband has no known expiration date.

Dec 09, 2025

Are you ready for the UK's Copper Broadband Switch-Off? | EC2 IT

This article explores what FTTC is, why it's being phased out, and what your future broadband options look like—plus how to prepare and where to go for help. What Is FTTC and Why

Jan 29, 2026

All copper broadband is not switching off in 2025 | thinkbroadband

While we expect the PSTN switch-off to be 98% to 99% complete at some point in 2025, there may still be some people waiting for someone to arrive to help them with the switch e.g. install

Nov 02, 2025

Top 6 Advantages and Disadvantages of Fiber Optic

Explore the top 6 advantages and disadvantages of fiber optic cable over copper, such as increased bandwidth, low attenuation, immunity to

Feb 18, 2026

The Switch-off from the Copper Telephone Network to

The old copper wire telephone network as we know it will be retired. BT Openreach announced that the copper wire telephone network for homes,

Jul 06, 2025

DSL is Switched Off – Ushering in the Era of Optical Fiber Internet

Germany's Deutsche Telekom is gradually shutting down DSL lines to make way for full-fiber coverage nationwide. In the UK, Openreach has announced that copper-based broadband will be phased out

Apr 15, 2026

U.S. fiber rollouts now pass ~52% of homes and

Fiber optic network deployments have reached a milestone as they now pass more than 50% of U.S. households, according to recent report from the

Mar 25, 2026

Will Fiber Optic Cable Become Obsolete?

Fiber optic cables have been at the forefront of communication technology for decades, providing unparalleled speed and reliability. However,

Oct 31, 2025

Will fibre broadband be obsolete by 2030

Labour has promised to give every home and business in the UK free full-fibre broadband by 2030 if it wins the general election.

Feb 05, 2026

How Often Do Fiber Optic Cables Need to Be

Learn how often fiber optic cables need replacement, what affects their lifespan, and how to extend service life. Includes FTTH, ADSS, OPGW,

Oct 24, 2025

PwC survey 2025: challenges of fiber-optic expansion

On average, a fiber-optic network consumes only half the electricity of a VDSL network and a third of an HFC network. However, if the expansion continues at

Oct 09, 2025

Are you ready for the UK's Copper Broadband Switch-Off? | EC2 IT

When Will FTTC Be Switched Off? The UK's copper switch-off is scheduled for completion by December 2025. Openreach has already stopped selling new FTTC connections and is urging

Aug 24, 2025

Fiber Broadband Scalability and Longevity

A quality fiber optic cable manufacturing process adds the proper strength elements and a protective polyethylene outer jacket that together protect the optical fiber from the environment and excessive

Sep 30, 2025

Future is Fiber | Cable Industry Challenges to Adapting

According to a recent report from the U.S. Department of Commerce, the broadband industry needs 205,000 more fiber technicians to avoid delays in

Sep 18, 2025

5 things you need to know about the BT Copper to Fibre

This means the user can do more; cloud computing, video conferencing, internet phone calls etc. 2. When is the switch happening? The rollout of Fibre Optic

Sep 17, 2025

Nvidia's \$4B Optical Bet: How CPO Changes the Game

A deep dive into Nvidia's \$4B optical networking strategy and how co-packaged optics (CPO) will reshape AI factories, data centers, and high-speed networking.

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