

# How to calculate the price of aerial optical cables

## Article Overview

Aerial fiber optic cable installation typically costs between \$3 and \$7 per linear foot, with total project costs ranging from \$40,000 to \$60,000 per mile depending on cable type, span, and installation complexity.

## Per-Foot and Cable Costs

The cost of aerial fiber optic cables varies based on the type and specifications of the cable. Self-supporting ADSS (All-Dielectric Self-Supporting) cables are commonly used for aerial deployments. For example, a 12-core ADSS cable for short spans ( $\leq 100$  meters) may cost around \$0.25-\$0.35 per meter, while a 48-core ADSS cable for long spans ( $\geq 500$  meters) can range from \$0.90-\$1.20 per meter due to higher tensile strength, reinforced jackets, and environmental resistance requirements.

## Installation Costs

Installation costs for aerial fiber are influenced by labor, pole attachment hardware, permits, and environmental conditions. Typical aerial fiber deployment costs range from \$40,000 to \$60,000 per mile, which is generally 40-60% less than underground installation due to lower equipment and trenching requirements. Self-supporting aerial cables eliminate the need for a messenger wire but require precise tensioning during installation. Pole attachment hardware can add \$50-\$150 per span, and additional costs may arise from permits, inspections, and terrain challenges.

## Factors Affecting Total Costs

- o Cable Type and Core Count: Higher fiber counts increase material costs.
- o Span Length and Mechanical Load: Longer spans or high-tension requirements increase cable and installation costs.
- o Environmental Conditions: Exposure to UV, wind, ice, or corrosive environments may require reinforced jackets or specialized installation techniques.
- o Labor and Permits: Local regulations, pole ownership, and labor rates can significantly impact total project costs.
- o Project Scale: Larger projects may benefit from economies of scale, reducing per-foot costs.

## Summary

For budgeting purposes, expect aerial fiber optic cable costs to range from \$3-\$7 per linear foot installed, with total project costs for a mile of aerial fiber typically between \$40,000 and \$60,000, depending on cable type, span, and installation complexity. ADSS cables are a cost-effective and reliable choice for telecom, power grid, and FTTH projects, offering long-term performance with lower maintenance compared to traditional



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copper or underground solutions .

Learn the key types of aerial fiber cables, essential pole hardware, and field-safe installation practices to ensure reliable overhead

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Discover the cost of fiber optic cable in this pricing guide. Learn material prices, installation factors, and what impacts

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When it comes to aerial cablings or outside plant (OSP) deployments, ADSS cable will provide an efficient and optimal

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CRU provides comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date price assessments and research reports for bare optical fibre

As a distributor, we work with multiple manufacturers, but Fujikura stands out for consistently delivering ADSS Fiber Cable within 6-8

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In this article, Bonelinks will give you an overall aerial fiber optic cable installation guide. The installation of aerial fiber

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Main cost drivers include cable grade (indoor vs outdoor, armoured), distance, and labor for trenching, splicing, and

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