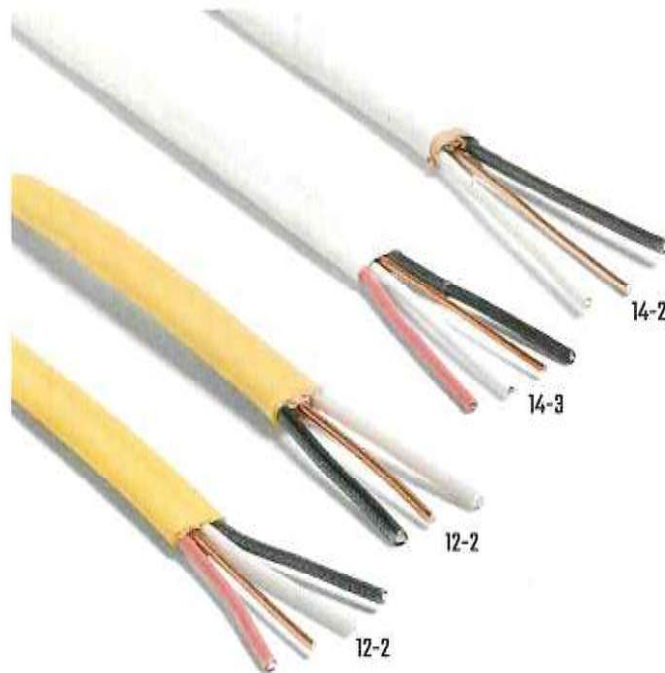




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NM-B — Nonmetallic Cable

This is the most common type of electrical cable in homes built since the mid-'60s.

“Nonmetallic” simply means that the outer jacket is not metal. It’s often referred to as Romex, which is a brand name. Typically, NM-B cable has either two conductors and a ground, or three conductors and a ground. The conductors are individually insulated, wrapped in paper and sheathed in plastic. Ground wires are either bare copper or insulated in green.

14-2 : Used for general lighting and receptacle circuits. 15-amp circuit maximum.

14-3 : Used for three-way switches and split receptacle circuits. 15-amp circuit maximum.

12-2 : Used for 20-amp kitchen, bathroom, laundry and garage receptacles; 230-volt heating circuits up to 3,700 watts; and 115-volt circuits up to 1,800 watts. Can be used anywhere in place of 14-2.

12-3 : Same uses as 12-2, with the addition of three-way switches and split receptacle circuits.