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Apple Transceivers: RJ45 Connector Requirements (7/94)

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TOPIC -----

We've noted that the RJ45 plugs we use to make up 10BaseT jumper cables do not work well with Apple transceivers. The jumper cables which come with your transceivers work fine.

Can you specify a manufacturer and part number for RJ45 plugs which will work with Apple transceivers? We prefer plugs which can be crimped on with a pair of channel locks (as opposed to a special crimp tool).

DISCUSSION -----

Although we cannot recommend one particular manufacturer of RJ45 connectors to use, we have been successful with many different manufacturers of RJ45 connectors. Since the Apple Twisted Pair transceiver uses a tight tolerance female RJ45 connector, it is very sensitive to improperly crimped connectors. My suspicion in this particular case is that the problems that the customer is experiencing is not from the connectors themselves but rather from the method of crimping the connectors.

Often times when a tool other than a special crimp tool is used to crimp the connectors, the contacts will not get crimped to their proper crimp height and thus not make good contact when inserted into the Apple Transceiver. All contacts must be crimped so that they are recessed below the top of the connector housing and are all at the same height. The channel locks may not be adequately crimping these particular RJ45 connectors and thus causing problems when inserted into the Apple Transceiver.

We recommend you contact a company that makes RJ45 connectors and get their recommendation on how their particular connector should be crimped.

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