

Field Wire...

SAY YES TO PM!

MAYBE THERE'S A BETTER WAY TO DO THIS?



FIELD WIRE IS ROUGH AND TOUGH AND CAN TAKE QUITE A LICKING.

NORMAL USE GIVES IT PLENTY OF ABUSE. BUT SOME OF YOU SHOULD BE PENALIZED FOR PILING ON.

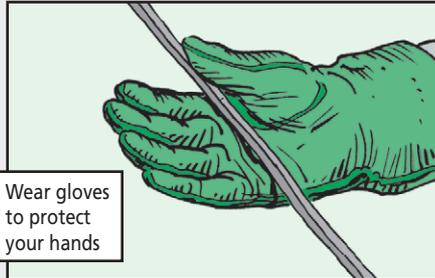


PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE WORKS FOR WIRE, TOO. HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU CAN DO TO EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR WIRE...

Recovering It

Start your recovery by removing all tags and untying the wire where necessary.

Skin protection—both yours and the wire—is your next consideration. Put on leather gloves to protect the skin on your hands.



Wear gloves to protect your hands

Now lay the wire out in as straight a path as possible.

Lift the cable off the ground as much as possible as you reel it in to protect its "skin."

As you slowly reel in the wire, look it over and get a feel for how much repair work you must do. You're looking for cuts, excessive splices, worn spots, jacket deterioration and other damage.

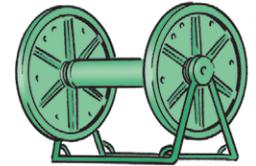
Servicing It

When you're back from the field, set aside a day where your unit can gather and service all your wire.

Make sure you have a couple of empty reels, tape, tools and your splicing equipment on hand.



HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU MIGHT NEED...



Item	NSN
TL-636 black electrical tape	5970-00-685-9059
TL-600 white electrical tape (for cold weather)	5970-01-262-3189
TL-83 friction tape	5970-00-644-3167
TL-29 pocket knife	5110-00-240-5943
TL-13 pliers	5120-00-239-8254
TL-13 pliers with skinners	5120-00-247-2063
CS-34 tool carrier	5140-00-498-8898
MK-356 splicing sleeve	5940-00-818-1774
MK-356 crimper tool	5120-00-679-2380
U1R splice	5940-00-935-8262
Crimper	5120-01-421-3979

TL-29 pocket knife



TL-13 pliers



TL-13 pliers with skinners





USE WIRE TAGS ON THE SPOOL OR REEL TO RECORD THE CONDITION OF THE WIRE FOR A QUICK CHECK LATER.

NSNs FOR A BUNDLE OF 50 TAGS WITH TIE-ON WIRES ARE...

Tags	NSN 9905-00-537-
Red	8954
Yellow	8955
Green	8956
White	8957

Start your wire check by putting an empty reel on one reel unit and the reel with the used wire on another reel unit. Slowly wind the wire onto the empty reel while thoroughly checking the wire. You can clean the wire while it moves from one reel to the other, too. Look for the same damage you did when you took the wire up in the field—cuts, excessive splices, worn spots, jacket deterioration and other damage.

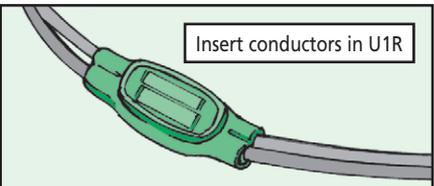
If the wire has insulation skinned off for three inches or less, but the wire is **not** broken, cover the exposed wire with electrical tape.

If the insulation or wire damage is more than three inches, cut out the damaged wire and splice it. If the wire is broken, splice it.

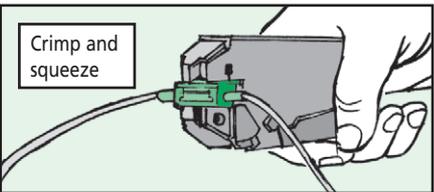
Slowly wind.
Thoroughly check



If you're using the UIR, split each pair of conductors and insert them into the splice. Make sure the conductors go through the metal prongs and all the way to the center of the UIR.



Center the UIR in the crimper. Press firmly until the red top part of the UIR is even with the clear bottom part. No tape is needed because the insulating grease in the splice protects against electrical leakage and corrosion. The insulating grease also makes the splice waterproof.



The number of the splices and the resistance of the wire tells you the wire's condition.

Four or fewer splices in 1/2 mile of wire is OK for mission use as long as the electrical resistance checks out. If you're using WD-1 or -1A, the resistance should not exceed 241 ohms per loop mile at 70°F. If you're using WF-16, 282 ohms per loop mile should not be exceeded.

More than four splices in any 1/2 mile of wire means it can be used for training only. It's ready for disposal if you don't need it for training.

When you turn in used wire, your DRMO will probably want it cut up and turned in by the pound. Check with them to make sure.

One mile of WD-1 wire weighs about 48 pounds. WD-1A is a little lighter at about 38 pounds. WF-16 is heavier at 62 pounds per mile of wire.

To order wire and reels, use these NSNs:

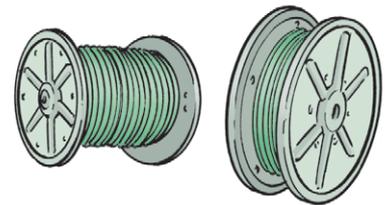
Reel	NSN 8130-00-
RL-159	174-0812*
DR-5	253-0106
DR-8	407-7859

*Once supply is exhausted, reel will only come with wire.

Wire	Length (Ft)	NSN 6145-
WD-1A in MX-306	2,640	01-155-4257
WD-1A on RL-159	5,280	01-155-4256
WD-1A on DR-5	5,280	00-220-9933
WD-1A on DR-8	1,640	01-155-4258
WF-16 on DR-5	5,280	00-910-8847
WF-16 on DR-8	1,000	01-259-9203

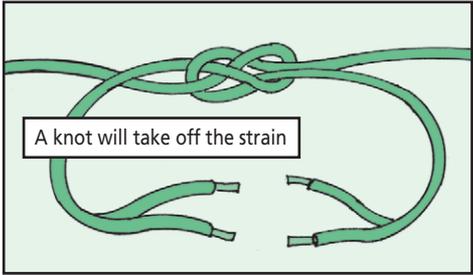
WD-1A on DR-8

WD-1A on RL-159 reel



Splicing It

Cut off, or out, the damaged wire and tie the two ends of the wire with a single knot, leaving about six inches of wire on either end of the knot. The knot will take the strain off the line at the point you make the splice.



If you are using the splice kit, splice the ends and wrap the splice with insulation tape.

Finally, every commo soldier worth his wire strippers takes care of his wire by the book and the book for wire is TC 24-20, *Field Wire and Field Cable Techniques*.

