

ELECTRICAL TAPES: DECODED

FOR COLOR-CODING OR PHASING TASKS, UNDERSTANDING THE USAGE STANDARDS OF EACH ELECTRICAL TAPE COLOR IS CRITICAL. DIFFERENT COLORS ALLOW ELECTRICIANS TO KNOW THE PURPOSE OF EACH WIRE, INCLUDING THE VOLTAGE LEVEL AND PHASE OF THE WIRE. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO CHOOSE – AND USE – THE RIGHT TAPE COLOR TO HELP ENSURE SAFETY ON THE JOB; THE WRONG COLOR COULD INDICATE AN INACCURATE VOLTAGE QUANTITY, PUTTING TECHNICIANS AT RISK. DON'T WAIT FOR A COSTLY ACCIDENT TO OCCUR – LEARN THE CODE.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ELECTRICAL TAPE?*

TAPE COLOR	U.S. USAGE	U.K. USAGE	INTERNATIONAL USAGE
 BLACK	INSULATION, LOW VOLTAGE, PHASE A	INSULATION, LOW VOLTAGE, NEUTRAL	LOW VOLTAGE, PHASE B
 RED	LOW VOLTAGE, PHASE B	LOW VOLTAGE, PHASE A	SHEATH, 3-PHASE 415 V
 BLUE	LOW VOLTAGE, PHASE C	LOW VOLTAGE, PHASE C	LOW VOLTAGE, NEUTRAL SHEATH, 230 V
 BROWN	HIGH VOLTAGE, PHASE A	–	LOW VOLTAGE, PHASE A
 ORANGE	HIGH VOLTAGE, PHASE B	–	SHEATH, GARDEN TOOLS
 YELLOW	HIGH VOLTAGE, PHASE C	LOW VOLTAGE, PHASE B	SHEATH, 110 V WIRING
 VIOLET	HIGH VOLTAGE, PHASE B	–	–
 GREEN	EARTH GROUND	EARTH	EARTH
 WHITE	LOW VOLTAGE, NEUTRAL	–	–
 GRAY	HIGH VOLTAGE, NEUTRAL	–	LOW VOLTAGE, PHASE C

**TO FIND AN ELECTRICAL TAPE THAT
DELIVERS PERFORMANCE DOWN TO
THE WIRE, VISIT SHURTAPE.COM.**

Source: http://www.globalspec.com/learnmore/manufacturing_process_equipment/stock_fabricated_materials/components/cable_electrical_tapes

*The above chart provides common ways to mark lines by color.

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