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## Cable Matters 180021

# Cable Matters 110 Punch Down Tool with 110 Blade - User Manual

Model: 180021 | Brand: Cable Matters

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Cable Matters 110 Punch Down Tool is designed for efficient and precise termination of Ethernet and voice cables into 110 patch panels or keystone jacks. This tool is compatible with various cable categories, including Cat 5, Cat 5e, Cat 6, Cat 6A, Cat 7, and Cat 8. Its durable design and adjustable impact settings make it suitable for both professional and DIY network installations.

## 2. PRODUCT FEATURES

- Efficient Cable Termination:** Cuts and terminates cables into 110 patch panels or keystone jacks.
- Removable & Secure Blade Storage:** Features a removable 110 blade with twist-and-lock sockets for safe transport and easy storage within the tool body.
- Adjustable Impact Settings:** Fine-tune the force with 'Lo' and 'Hi' settings for precise terminations into jacks, blocks, or patch panels using 110 IDC terminals.
- Wide Keystone Compatibility:** Compatible with Cat 5, Cat 5e, Cat 6, Cat 6A, Cat 7, and Cat 8 Ethernet or voice cables.
- Durable Spring-Action Design:** Utilizes a spring-action mechanism for fast, low-effort cable seating and termination. The reversible cut/punch blade ensures long-lasting precision.

## 3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

- 1 x Cable Matters 110 Punch Down Tool
- 1 x 110 Blade (pre-installed or included)

## 4. SAFETY INFORMATION

- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment, such as safety glasses, when using hand tools.
- Keep fingers and other body parts clear of the blade during operation.

- Ensure the tool is used on a stable surface to prevent accidental slips.
- Store the tool in a dry, secure place, out of reach of children.
- Do not use the tool if it appears damaged or if the blade is dull or broken.

## 5. SETUP

### 5.1 Blade Installation and Removal

The 110 blade is designed for easy installation and removal. To remove the blade, pull back the black collar at the top of the tool and twist the blade to unlock it. To install, align the groove on the blade with the ball bearing inside the tool's collar, push in, and twist to secure. Ensure the blade is firmly seated before use.



Image: Close-up of the tool's blade being removed by pulling back the collar.

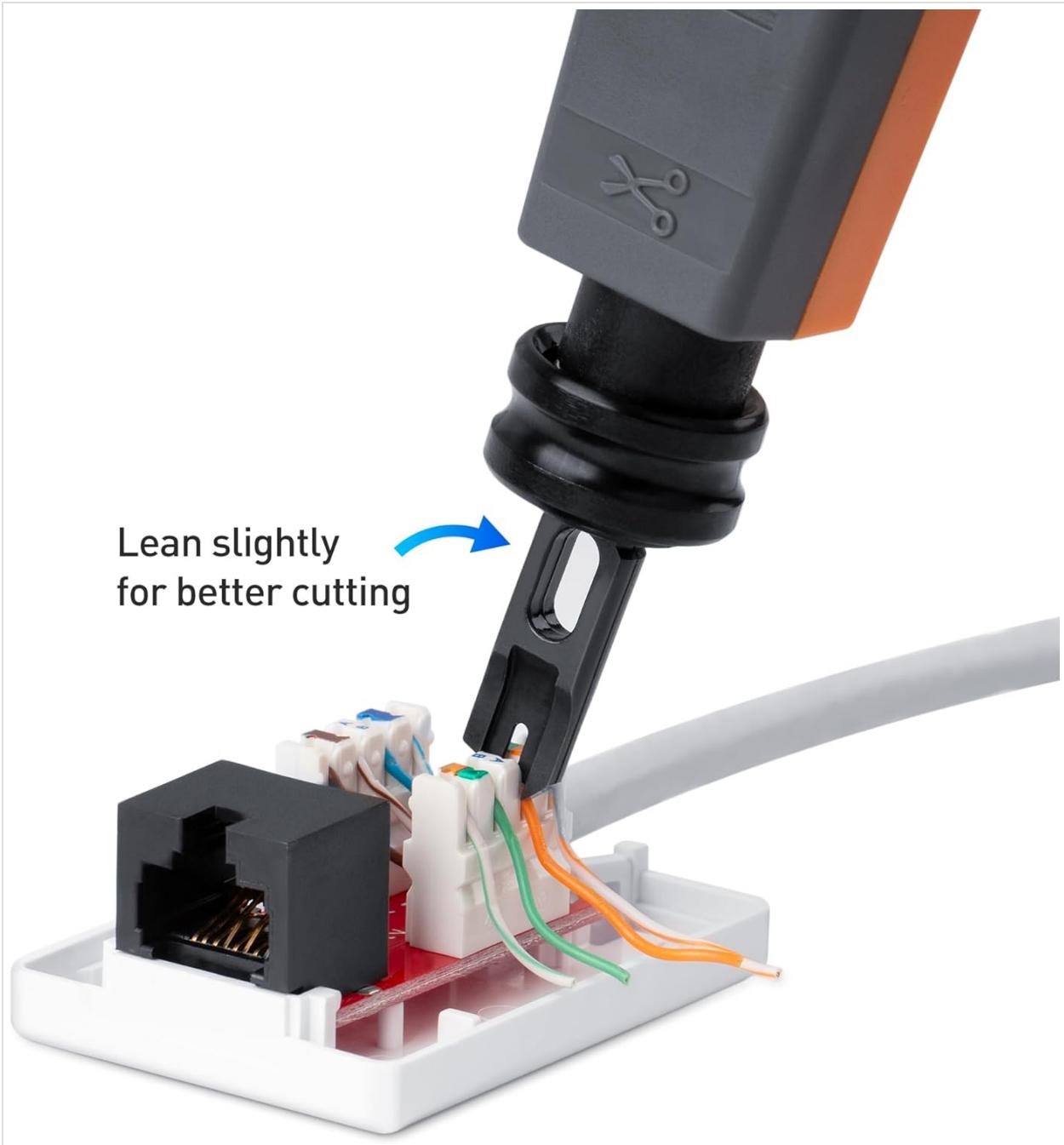


Image: Close-up showing how to insert the blade by aligning the groove with the ball.

## 5.2 Adjustable Impact Settings

The tool features a switch for adjusting the impact force between 'Lo' (low) and 'Hi' (high) settings. The 'Hi' setting provides a stronger impact, which is generally recommended for most terminations to ensure a secure connection and clean cut. The 'Lo' setting can be used for more delicate applications or when less force is required.



Image: The Cable Matters 110 Punch Down Tool with its adjustable 'Lo/Hi' impact setting switch visible.

## 6. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### 6.1 Preparing the Cable

1. Carefully strip approximately 1 inch of the outer jacket from the Ethernet or voice cable, exposing the twisted pairs.
2. Untwist the wire pairs and straighten each individual wire.
3. Arrange the wires according to the wiring scheme (T568A or T568B) indicated on your patch panel or keystone jack.

### 6.2 Terminating the Cable

1. Place the wire into the appropriate slot on the 110-type IDC terminal of your patch panel or keystone jack.
2. Position the punch down tool directly over the wire and terminal, ensuring the cutting side of the blade (if applicable) is facing the excess wire.
3. Apply firm, downward pressure on the tool until you hear a click. This click indicates that the wire has been properly seated and the excess wire has been cut (if using the cutting side of the blade).
4. Repeat for all remaining wires.



Image: The punch down tool being used to terminate a cable into a keystone jack, showing the correct angle for cutting.

### 6.3 Instructional Videos

#### How to Use a Punch Down Tool

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video: This video demonstrates the proper technique for using a punch down tool to terminate network cables, including blade orientation and impact settings.

#### Punch Down Tool Overview

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Video: An overview of the punch down tool, highlighting its features and general use for network installations.

## 7. MAINTENANCE

- Regularly inspect the blade for sharpness and damage. Replace dull or damaged blades to ensure clean and reliable terminations.
- Clean the tool after each use to remove any wire fragments or debris. Use a dry cloth or soft brush.
- Avoid exposing the tool to excessive moisture or corrosive substances to prevent rust and damage to internal mechanisms.

- Store the tool in its original packaging or a tool bag to protect it from impacts and environmental factors.

## 8. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Issue:** Wires are not cutting cleanly or are not seating properly.  
**Solution:** Ensure the blade is sharp and correctly installed. Verify that the impact setting is on 'Hi' for most applications. Apply firm, straight downward pressure. If the blade is worn, replace it.
- **Issue:** Blade becomes jammed or difficult to remove.  
**Solution:** This can sometimes occur if the tool is exposed to moisture, causing rust in the blade retention mechanism. Try applying a small amount of penetrating oil to the mechanism and carefully work the blade free. Ensure the tool is stored in a dry environment to prevent recurrence.
- **Issue:** Intermittent network connection after termination.  
**Solution:** Re-check the wiring scheme to ensure all wires are in the correct positions. Ensure each wire is fully seated into its IDC terminal. A faulty termination can often be resolved by re-punching the connection.

## 9. SPECIFICATIONS

<b>Manufacturer</b>	Cable Matters
<b>Part Number</b>	180021
<b>Item Weight</b>	6.4 ounces
<b>Product Dimensions</b>	9.8 x 3 x 0.7 inches
<b>Item Model Number</b>	180021
<b>Size</b>	Punch Down Tool w/ 110 Blade
<b>Power Source</b>	Hand powered
<b>Item Package Quantity</b>	1
<b>Date First Available</b>	January 17, 2012

## 10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Cable Matters products are backed by a limited warranty. For detailed warranty information, technical support, or to inquire about replacement parts, please visit the official Cable Matters website or contact their customer service department. Please have your product model number (180021) and purchase date available when contacting support.