

Common Pigtail Wire Diameters



Overview

AWG Wire Size Chart — Diameter & Ampacity Complete AWG Wire Size Chart & Reference Guide American Wire Gauge (AWG) comprehensive reference table with diameter.

Key Takeaways

Pigtail wires commonly range from 14 AWG to 22 AWG, depending on the application, with diameters from approximately 0.025 inches (0.64 mm) to 0.064 inches (1.63 mm). Typical Wire Sizes for Pigtails

Pigtail wires are short lengths of wire used to connect multiple conductors to a single terminal or device. The most common American Wire Gauge (AWG) sizes for pigtails are:

- 14 AWG - Diameter ~0.0641 inches (1.63 mm), used for standard residential lighting and outlet circuits (15-20A) .
- 16 AWG - Diameter ~0.0508 inches (1.29 mm), often used for low-power lighting or small appliances .
- 18 AWG - Diameter ~0.0403 inches (1.02 mm), suitable for signal wiring, low-current devices, or automotive applications .
- 20 AWG - Diameter ~0.0320 inches (0.81 mm), commonly used for control circuits, sensors, or LED connections .



- 22 AWG – Diameter ~0.0253 inches (0.64 mm), used for delicate electronics, low-current signals, or small connectors .

Factors Affecting Pigtail Wire Selection

- Current Rating – Thicker wires (lower AWG numbers) carry more current safely. For example, 14 AWG can handle 15–20 amps, while 22 AWG is limited to under 5 amps .
- Insulation Type – PVC or THHN insulation is common for residential and automotive pigtails, providing protection against heat, moisture, and abrasion .
- Stranded vs Solid – Stranded wires are more flexible and easier to twist into pigtails, while solid wires are stiffer but may be easier to insert into screw terminals .
- Application Environment – Automotive, industrial, or household wiring may require different gauges and insulation ratings to meet safety codes and temperature limits .

Summary

For most residential and automotive pigtail applications, 14–22 AWG wires are standard, with diameters ranging from 0.025 inches (0.64 mm) to 0.064 inches (1.63 mm). Choosing the correct gauge ensures safe current handling, proper connection, and compliance with electrical codes. Always consider the current load, insulation type, and flexibility when selecting pigtail wires.

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Find a comprehensive electrical wire size table with details on AWG sizes, circular mils, and amperes. Learn how wire

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Wire Gauge Size Chart

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