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r/buildapc • 6 yr. ago  
suchtie

# DO NOT mix and match the cables of different modular power supplies without prior research.

Discussion

They may fit physically but they are often wired differently, which you will not be able to see since the cables are often wrapped or braided.

The power plugs that go into your mainboard, SATA or Molex devices, fans and so on are standardized. But, while power supply manufacturers likely get the actual plugs that go into the PSU from the same supplier, there is no standard for their wiring, so their pins will not always correspond to the same pin on the standardized plug.

You MAY be able to mix and match between different power supplies of the same brand. Do your homework! Ask the manufacturer's customer service, perhaps check if the company offers manuals that allow you to compare the wiring, or get a multimeter and check if they're using the same patterns yourself. Be very careful that you're getting it right, because just a fraction of a second is enough to destroy something if it's getting too much power or the voltage is too high. If you turn your rig on and then notice something's wrong, it's already too late.

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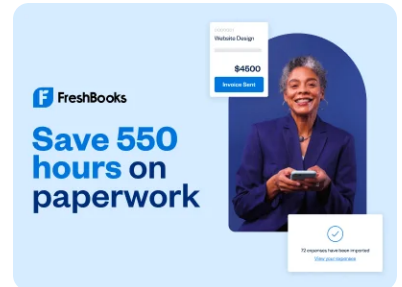
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This is always a no no as you must only use cables that are made for your psu including aftermarket sleeved cables



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Does anyone besides cablemod actually sell PSU specific cables?

↑ 93 ↓ ○ Reply ...

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**suchtie** OP • 6y ago •

Problem is that not everyone knows this. The friend I mentioned is very knowledgeable about computers (studies IT and has built and generally screwed with PCs for far longer than I did) and he didn't know about this. Expected the cables to be standardized, which they aren't.

Also, OEM cables can be sleeved too. My EVGA PSU has black sleeved cables, look pretty nice. Not that it has much of an effect in my windowless case (quiet > RGB).

↑ 34 ↓ ○ Reply ...

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**podboi** • 6y ago • Edited 6y ago •

DO NOT mix and match the cables of different modular power supplies ~~without prior research.~~

~~You don't even need to do research, even if you bought the same brand the same model, just use the new ones cause sometimes manufacturers make small internal changes to the units as time goes by.~~

Don't be that guy who's so lazy he can't just rewire his PC and kills it.

Edit: Was informed no manufacturer changes internals mid production run.

⊖ ↑ 89 ↓ ○ Reply ...



**GrouchyMeasurement** • 6y ago •

It's like why the fuck can't they have the exact same pin out as the mobos connectors

↑ 44 ↓ ○ Reply ...

⊕ 3 more replies



**awesomegamer919** • 6y ago •

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No reputable brand does that.

DO NOT mix and match the cables of different modular power supplies without prior research.

There are several cases where cables from another brand will work with your PSU, for example, Bitfenix use Corsair's type 4 pinout for their whisper series so the RMx, RMi, AX1600i, new AX Titanium, CXm, Vengeance and TXm are all compatible with the Whisper's cables (and vice versa), the AX1500i/old HX and the other type 3 pinout PSUs are only incompatible on the ATX 24 pin cable.

18 Reply ...

12 more replies

2 more replies



[deleted] • 6y ago •

Yes, I actually luckily learnt this from a seller of custom cables. He told me to bring in my PSU cables, I said, just give me new ones and he said no, it's dangerous.

45 Reply ...



lumpynose • 6y ago •

To me this is like USB, SATA, etc.: there ought to be a standard that all of the PSU makers can follow. Fat chance.

20 Reply ...

5 more replies



xm6u3x • 6y ago •

What about after market sleeves, I was thinking on getting some to match my system's color scheme.

15 Reply ...



beardedbast3rd • 6y ago • Edited 6y ago •

You can buy extensions, which you must place on the mother board, and then into the cable from your power supply, not directly into your power supply.

You can remove the pins and rearrange them as per the power supply, but that is a test in patience and has a risk to it

Edit, to clarify, you could plug an extension cable into the psu, but it would need to plug into the psu provided cable anyways to do the conversion from the supplies pinout to the standard atx pinout, then into the motherboard, but this defeats the purpose of getting a sleeved extension, as well as being possible the cable probably won't even fit the power supplies output plug.

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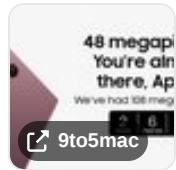
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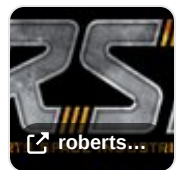
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18 comments

 r/buildapc • 3 yr. ago

### If you aren't supposed to mix modular psu cables, then what makes cable extensions safe?

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**Friendly reminder: Never NEVER re-use the cables from modular power supplies.**

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