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Subject: Re: Any TT experience with Belden 89259 interconnects?

Posted by [Russellc](#) on Thu, 24 Mar 2005 20:47:49 GMT

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As I remember percy sold me the cardas for 3.00 a foot, so it is a little cheaper, but is superb cable. Extremely pure copper, and very well shielded. It can be a little tricky to tin, but the gauge you will be using is so small it isn't much of an issue. I just get the end trimmed like I like it, lay it down and heat it until solder suddenly melts into it and thoroughly coats it. Then insert that pre-tinned end into the solder tubes on the back of the DIN. The DIN plug is about half as cheap if you can use a straight one. The right angle one is about twice as high. Just make sure, whatever cable you use, that the gauge is small enough to go into those little tube fixtures on the back of the DIN. The cardas DIN is teflon I believe and I was able to solder it without much worry of overheating it. The Eichman bullet plugs are quite in vogue now, I haven't used any but have examined them, and they look a little fragile for my tastes, I much prefer the top of the line cardas which are about 27.00 a pair. Very robust and substantial feeling, as are the top of the line vampire, which is copper under the plate. Their older, but I believe still available "5 piece" RCA, which may also be copper were too much of a pain for my clumsy hands. The Cardas plugs do require a slight modification. One of the DIY cable sites shows this very plainly with cardas being used on Belden cable as an interconnect. Basically, they have cut a slot in the plug's barrel towards the back, which forms a hoop for the (-) run to solder to. If you solder to it like it is, the wire and solder will not let the shell screw on. So, just take a screwdriver and place it in the middle of the hoop and press until the hoop "dents in". The dent gives enough clearance to allow the shell to pass over the solder spot where that run solders to. This will be much more clear when you look at the plugs themselves. When you order the stuff, also get enough of some really nice adhesive-lined shrink wrap. 1/2 inch will go over these large cardas. Remember, you don't have to put the shell on the cable before you attach the RCAs. With these, you solder the RCA to the cable, then the shell screws on over the top. Use needle-nose pliers to stretch out a piece of the shrink wrap. Just stick them in, and force them open, stretching it out, quickly, as it wants to go back to original size, and stretch both ends until it will pass over the plug. It will go, just keep stretching. good luck. Russellc