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Subject: Do the gold cables really get a better sound?

Posted by [WorkingWoman2017](#) on Sun, 01 Oct 2017 23:44:14 GMT

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I have found that there are a number of people who swear by the use of the more expensive gold cables because they say the sound you get is better. Is this true?

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Subject: Re: Do the gold cables really get a better sound?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 02 Oct 2017 02:56:03 GMT

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Gold doesn't oxidize as badly as other contacts, so it makes a better connection. That's the main thing that gold is good for in a cable - the mechanical connection is better. You don't really need the entire conductor through the whole cable path to be gold, just the contacts.

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Subject: Re: Do the gold cables really get a better sound?

Posted by [Madison](#) on Sat, 28 Oct 2017 01:30:14 GMT

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I've wondered that myself, Wayne Parham, so thanks for answering. I thought all cables were created equal. Is gold considered better than copper then? What do the cheaper brands use for their connectors?

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Subject: Re: Do the gold cables really get a better sound?

Posted by [moss24](#) on Sat, 28 Oct 2017 11:47:03 GMT

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I have never considered this before, when making a purchase but I think that this will be one serious consideration in case I need them anytime soon. Is the price range really that big?

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Subject: Re: Do the gold cables really get a better sound?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 28 Oct 2017 15:24:16 GMT

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Copper is a fine conductor, so it's great for the wire. But it oxidizes easily, and copper oxide is an insulator so it doesn't make a good connector.

That's why it is best to use gold or silver at the ends for connections. Gold doesn't oxidize easily

and while silver does, silver oxide is a conductor so it isn't bad. Even tinning the ends of a copper wire with solder helps make a better connection.

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Subject: Re: Do the gold cables really get a better sound?

Posted by [Madison](#) on Sat, 28 Oct 2017 22:26:02 GMT

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Thank you again for the quick reply. I'm getting into DIY stuff at home and am keeping a folder of tips. It's also good to know for shopping purposes. Thanks a bunch!

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Subject: Re: Do the gold cables really get a better sound?

Posted by [GoldenOldie](#) on Sat, 25 Nov 2017 22:13:36 GMT

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I know that there are many types of wires that will oxidize. I wasn't sure that silver was as good as gold. Silver tarnishes. Would that prohibit a good connection?

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Subject: Re: Do the gold cables really get a better sound?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 26 Nov 2017 04:41:34 GMT

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I personally prefer gold for contacts but I will say that since silver oxide is a conductor, it is at least better than copper oxide which is an insulator.

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Subject: Re: Do the gold cables really get a better sound?

Posted by [GoldenOldie](#) on Sun, 03 Dec 2017 20:10:56 GMT

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Thanks for the explanation of the difference between why silver is better than copper in cable connectors. I didn't realize that silver oxide (tarnish) was capable of conducting. Thanks.

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