PLATINUM TOOLS ®

Testing Voice Cables with the Cable Prowler™ or Net Prowler™

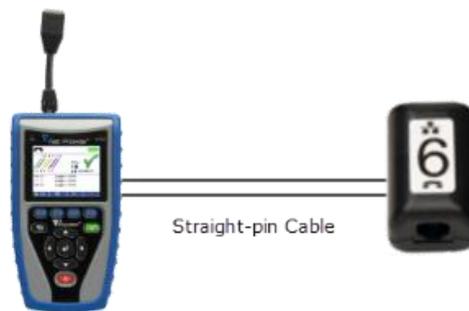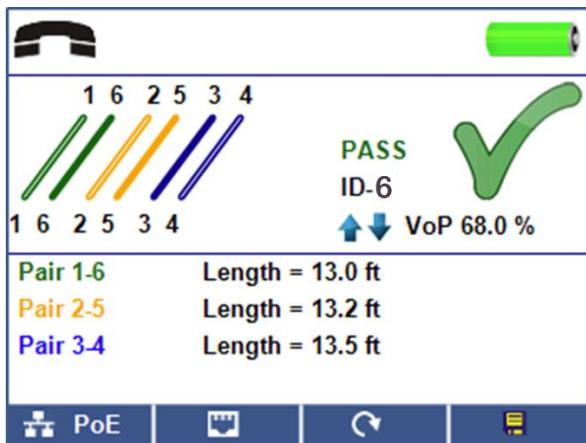
TIP! Using a Port Saver (Platinum Tools P/N 21025C) or a No-Fault patch cord (Platinum Tools P/N T126C) when testing voice cables can prevent damaging the jack on the tester.

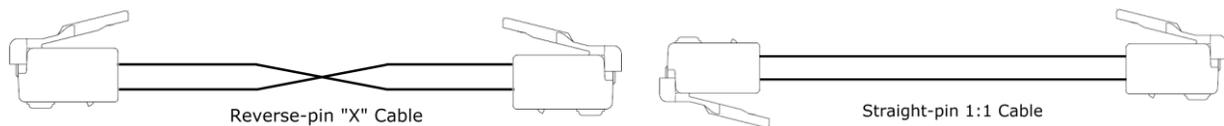
Accessing the Voice Test Mode

To access the Voice Cable Test Mode, select the cable test icon [icon] or [icon] , then select the Coax Test mode icon [icon] . When the next screen loads, select the Voice icon [icon] . The Voice Test Mode will display a Voice Test Mode icon [icon] in the upper left corner.

This tester is optimized to test for CAT3 twisted pair straight-pin 1:1 voice cables. The pairing configuration that it will display for 3 pairs is 1-6, 2-5 and 3-4.The pin configuration that it test for is 1-1, 2-2, 3-3, 4-4, 5-5 and 6-6.

If the twisted-pair cable being tested is a straight-pin 1:1 configuration it will display a PASS result.

TIP! Reverse-pin "X" cables are easily identified as both ends of the cable have the lock tabs in the same orientation. Straight-pin 1:1 cables will have the lock tabs of the connectors in opposite orientations (one up and the other down).

Reverse-pin "X" Cable   Straight-pin 1:1 Cable

If your voice cable is configured as a Reverse-pin "X" cable, it will display a "FAIL" result.
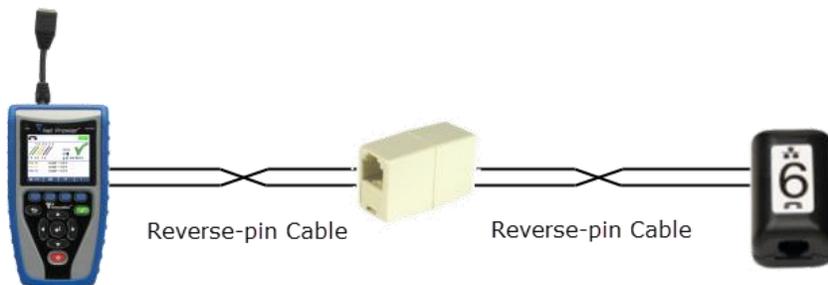

For any flat-satin or twisted-pair cable in a reverse-pin configuration, ignore the "FAIL" result and make sure that the wire-map is the same for each cable that you are testing.

Note: The tester may display a "split-pair FAIL" for flat cables since its detection is optimized to detect the electrical characteristics of a twisted pair cable.

For the tester to display PASS results for a Reverse-pin "X" cable, you will need to use the right combination of patch cords and couplers/wall jacks to emulate a Straight-pin 1:1 configuration to the tester.

For example, two reverse patch cords connected through a coupler will result in a straight-pin 1:1 equivalent cable.

A Straight-pin 1:1 configured cable can be tested with Reverse-pin "X" patch cords on both ends.