

The plotter cable must be a specific cable. It is possible to purchase several different cables that will attach to both the computer and plotter, that will not work. The pin configuration of the proper cable is rolled in a specific pattern.

These cables will NOT work:

1. A null modem cable
2. A straight thru RS-232 cable
3. The majority of Serial cables that can be purchased
3. A Laserjet Parallel printer cable
4. Any other Parallel cable

This is the ONLY cable that WILL work:

1. An HP Serial cable for use with HP Laserjet printer or HP plotter. The Plotter end of the cable will always be a 25-Pin Male connector*. The computer end may be either 9-Pin or 25-Pin Female, depending on the Serial connector on a particular computer. A shielded cable is better protected against local electro-magnetic noise that may cause plotter error. For most office applications, unshielded cables, though not as good, will work.

Caution: Specify exactly what is indicated here, and do not assume the computer technician or salesperson knows what you want. The particular cable configuration required for a plotter connection is only a small percentage of all the cables sold, and plotter cables are not stocked by many outlets. In research to find vendors for this list, about 50% of the people contacted tried to sell the wrong cable.

Some places where this cable might be purchased are:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Connections</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Order #</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Inmac	8 ft.	DB-25F to DB-25M	HP Plotter 7470/7475A(shield)	K754-2	(800) 547-5444
Businessland	10 ft.	DB-9F to DB-25M	IBM AT to Laserjet	BE F2L04410	
Businessland	10 ft.	DB-25F to DB-25M	IBM PC to Laserjet	BE F2J04410	

* The only exception to this is the HP 7550 Plus plotter, which connects Female to Female. For this plotter, use Businessland Order # BE A2L04610 for 9-pin and Order # BE A2J04610 for 25-pin.

If you have a cable now, and are not sure if it is the proper cable, you may use an ohm meter to check for pin configuration. The configuration required depends on whether the user has a 9-Pin Serial or 25-Pin Serial connection on the computer end of the cable. The two arrangements shown below illustrate minimum pin configurations for either situation:

<u>Computer Attachment</u>		<u>Plotter Attachment</u>		<u>Computer Attachment</u>		<u>Plotter Attachment</u>	
<u>9-Pin Female</u>		<u>25-Pin Male</u>		<u>25-Pin Female</u>		<u>25-Pin Male</u>	
1	to	8	(optional)	8	to	8	(optional)
2	to	2		2	to	3	
3	to	3		3	to	2	
4	to	5	(optional)	20	to	5	(optional)
5	to	7		7	to	7	
6,8	to	20		5,6	to	20	

However, since the cables cost less than \$10 per cable, if you do not have an ohm-meter handy, it may be more cost effective to order the proper cable than to mess with an old cable that you are not sure of.