

Audio Connector Comparison Chart

TYPE	Main Uses	Physical Robustness	Electrical Reliability	Lockable	Earth connection	Number of Contacts	Additional features
XLR	Mic leads	Excellent	Excellent	Y	Same time	2 - 7	Male and Female
¼" Jack (mono)	Guitar Line level (Semi-Pro)	Poor	Poor	N	First	2	cheap
¼" Jack ("stereo")	Headphones Inserts Balanced line level	Poor	Poor	N (except Neutrik)	First	3	cheap
B gauge (316)	Professional patchbays	Excellent	Good	N	First	3	Brass (require cleaning)
TT (Bantam)	Professional patchbays	Excellent	Good	N	First	3	Brass (require cleaning)
RCA Phono	Home stereos	Poor	Good	N	Last (except Profi)	2	Covers in several colours
DIN	Home stereos (old) MIDI	Poor	Poor	N	Same time	2 - 12	Difficult to solder
Speakon	PA speakers	Excellent	Excellent	N	Same time	2, 4 or 8	
Banana	Home stereos Synthesisers	Excellent	Excellent	N	None	1	Can be "piggy-backed"
Mini-jack	Compact stereos Headphones	Poor	Poor	N	First	2 or 3	