

How Style Numbers are Determined

UL Categorizes AWM into one of five Sections, numbered from 1 through 5. The categorization is based on whether the AWM has a single conductor wire or multi-conductor cables and whether the insulation, jacket or covering is made of thermoplastic or thermosetting materials. A thermoplastic material can be softened easily by heating and resoftened by heating it again. A thermosetting material cures by chemical action when heated and, when cured, cannot be resoftened by heating. UL also differentiates AWM by the manufacturing process used to apply the insulation, jacket or covering.

Section 1 and 2 styles have thermoplastic insulations and jackets or coverings such as Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC), Polyethylene (PE), Polypropylene (PP) and other similar materials. Section 1 styles are single conductor wires. Section 2 styles are flat or round multi-conductor cables.

Section 3 and 4 styles have thermosetting insulations, jackets or coverings such as rubber, radiation or chemically cross-linked Polyethylene (XLPE) or radiation or chemically cross-linked Polyethylene Polyvinyl Chloride (XLPVC) compounds. Section 3 styles are single conductor wires. Section 4 styles are flat or round multi-conductor cables.

Section 5 styles may be single wires or multi-conductor cables. These styles usually cover such materials as composite or tape insulations, fiber optic cables and laminated tapes.

Appliance Wiring Material Style Number Designations		
Style Designations	Section	Type/Use
1000 – 1999 and 10000 –	1	Single Conductor, thermoplastic-insulated wire.
2000 – 2999 and 20000 –	2	Multi-Conductor, thermoplastic-insulated and jacketed wire.
3000 – 3999	3	Single Conductor, thermosetting-insulated wire.
4000 – 4999	4	Multi-Conductor, thermosetting-insulated and jacketed wire.
5000 – 5999	5	Single and multiple conductor specialty items