

**Water Exposure for Copper Romex®
SIMpull® Indoor NM-B Cables**
Prepared by CableTechSupport™ Services on October 5, 2022

Southwire Company designs, manufactures, and tests copper Romex® Type NM-B products to the latest industry codes and standards per the spec link attached below.

[Southwire's Spec on Romex® Brand SIMpull® Indoor Wire Copper NM-B Cable](#)

Type NM-B Romex® cables are for **indoor use only**. The cable construction and the raw materials used are not designed or qualified for wet locations.

We recommend replacing Romex® cables if the indoor wiring has been exposed to rain, flood, storm water, or saltwater.

It might be challenging to inspect the cables and validate whether the wiring has been exposed to wet conditions after the water has evaporated or has been absorbed by the outer sheath. As a result, the degree of water damage to the wiring might not be visible. The wet conditions will compromise the long-term performance and the safety of Romex® wiring greatly when the exposure is severe or if the water contains metal contaminants, oxidizing pollutants, salt, and corrosive chemicals.

There will be no major concern if Romex® cable is exposed to high humidity in indoor conditions during summer months or in the basement. One might find dry salt particles deposited on the surface of indoor Romex® cable under high humidity in coastal areas. To the best of our knowledge, dry salt particles will not impact the life of Romex® cables.

Conclusions:

Southwire Company's engineering team recommends replacing Romex® Brand SIMpull® Indoor NM-B Cables after exposure to wet conditions including but not limited to water pipe leakage, rain, flood, storm water, or saltwater.

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