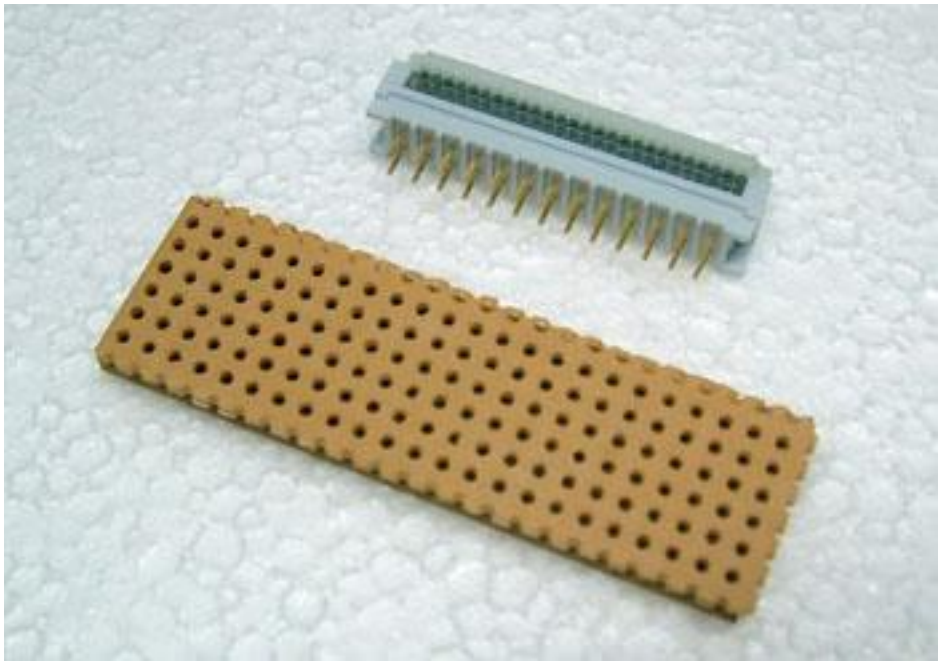
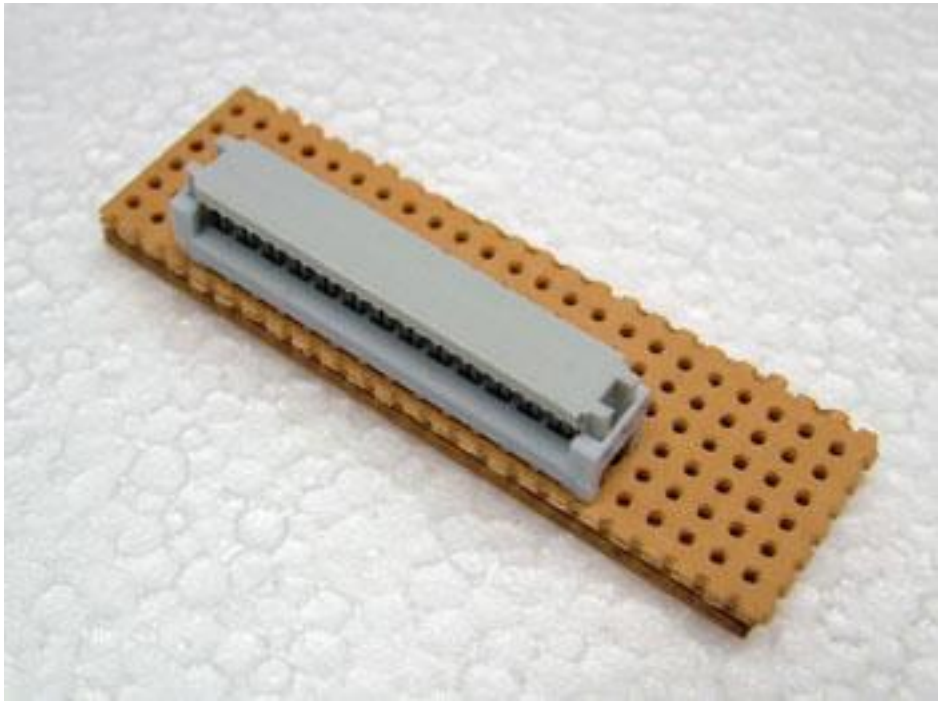
# HOW TO MAKE A RIBBON CABLE

Making a ribbon cable is a simple task and does not require a specialist tool.  A couple of pieces of perforated board and a small vice are all you need.

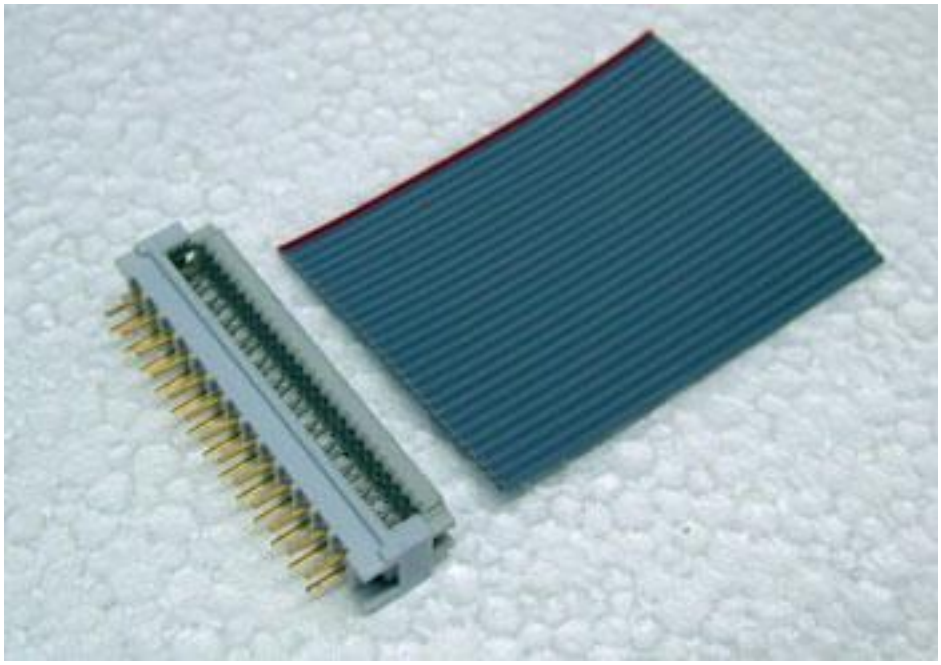
1). Cut three or four pieces of rectangular shape perforated board and stick them together. The idea is to protect the pins on the PCB transition header so that they are completely embedded  when inserted into the perfo block.

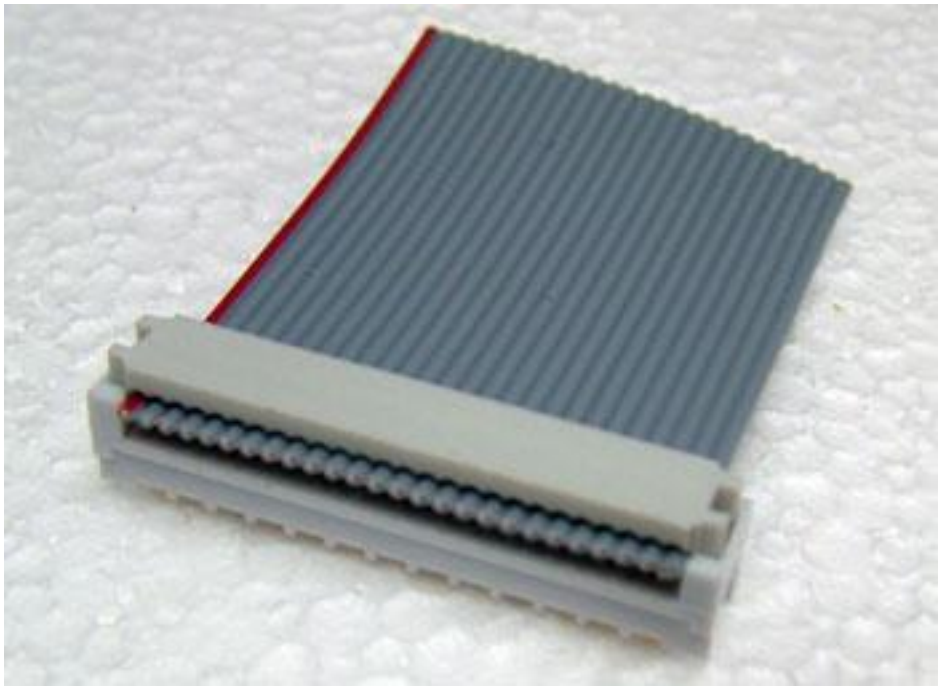




2). Cut the ribbon cable in the correct length. Make sure that the cut is at a right angle. You can use a set square or any object that you can see around such as a sheet of paper or corner of your desk to mark it. Cut using a pair of scissors.

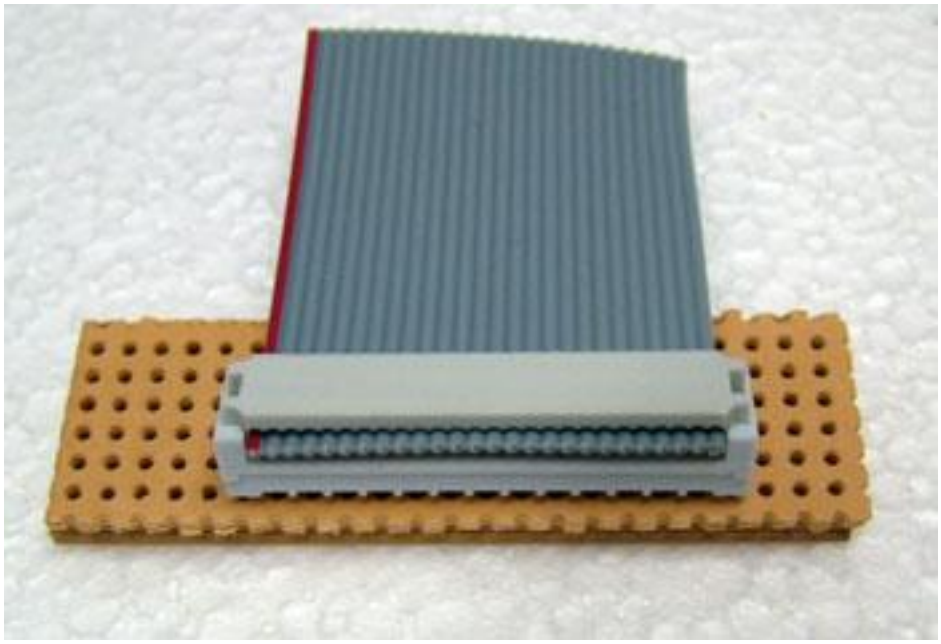
Close inspection will reveal that the top locking piece of the transition header has correct number of grooves for the ribbon cable to nest. Slip the ribbon cable in and press the locking piece down with your fingers until it is sufficiently engaged.

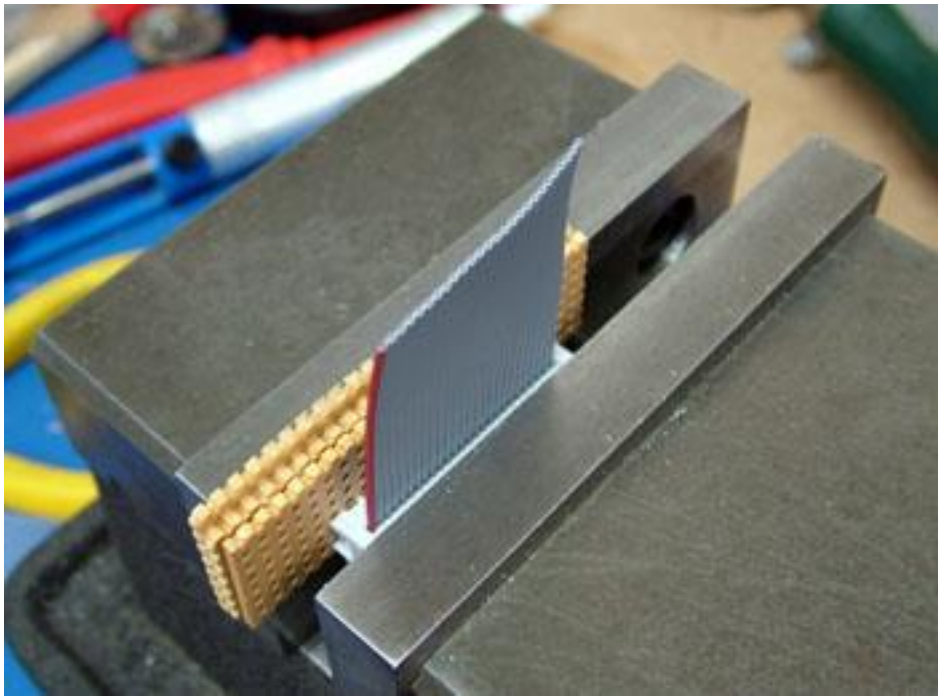




3). Insert the transition header into the perforated board block and place on the vice. Keep the jaws of the vice slightly wider than the whole thickness of the perfo block and transition header assembly and neatly slide it in from the side. Tighten the vice gently until it comes to a stop. Actually you will feel the cable being engaged into the header. Do not force it further. It should be hand tight and you will feel that.

The picture shows a large machine vice. You do not need this. A small bench vice will be sufficient. In fact I am sure you will find other apparatus to do the job.





4). Release the vice and remove the assembly.  There it is, nice and neat. Repeat the same procedure for the female cable socket. However, you will naturally not need the perfo block for this as the socket has no exposed pins to get damaged.

Please note that the last picture shows the cable assembly for the EQ ONE I/O BOARD as it has the cable socket facing opposite direction.  Pay attention the position requirements of the cable that you are making.