

CUTTING SPIRAL WIRE-REINFORCED HOSES

Many hoses have an embedded spiral, spring-steel wire reinforcement to prevent collapse on tight bends. It is perfectly possible to make a clean, straight cut with only a sharp knife and some good quality side cutters. Here's how.

Lay the hose flat on a bench and rotate the hose until you can make a mark right next to the wire at the exact length required. Now, depending on which direction the wire is wound, insert a sharp knife blade and cut through the hose all the way around, either towards you or away from you, until the blade is exactly next to the start point, but on the other side of the wire. Don't follow the wire with your knife, cut dead square to the hose so the blade slowly moves away from the wire as you turn the hose. You can then fold back the hose and cut the wire with your cutters. The cut wire ends will often try to straighten themselves out so you can just re-bend the ends with your fingers. You can apply this method to all our coolant, fuel and duct hoses.

