



### 6.3 The Steckerstaff

### 6.4 Differences in Enigma models

The Steckerstaff is a plugboard used in the Enigma machine to provide an additional layer of encryption. It consists of a grid of 26 sockets, each representing a letter of the alphabet. Pairs of sockets are connected by a plug, effectively swapping the letters. For example, if the 'A' and 'B' sockets are connected, the letter 'A' will be encrypted as 'B' and vice versa. The Steckerstaff is a crucial component of the Enigma machine's security, as it allows for a vast number of possible letter combinations.

Differences in Enigma models include variations in the number of rotors, the type of rotors used, and the presence of a Steckerstaff. Some models, such as the Enigma I, had only three rotors, while later models like the Enigma II and III had five rotors. The Enigma III also featured a Steckerstaff, which was not present in the earlier models. These differences significantly affected the complexity and security of the machine's encryption.