

How to level cable trays



Overview

When fitting cable trays and their accessories, the products are cut on site to create changes of direction, adjust sections, etc.

Key Takeaways

Leveling a cable tray involves careful planning, precise marking, and the use of proper tools to ensure straight, safe, and code-compliant installation. Step 1: Plan the Route

Before installing, determine the exact path of the cable tray. Consider clearance requirements, load capacity, and separation of power and signal cables. Mark the route on walls, ceilings, or floors using a chalk line or laser level to create a visual guide for alignment ().

Step 2: Mark Support Points

Identify where supports, brackets, or struts will be installed. Standard intervals are typically 1.5 to 3 meters (5-10 feet) depending on tray type and load. Use a measuring tape and level to ensure that all support points are at the same height along the route ().

Step 3: Use Leveling Tools

- Laser Level: Projects a straight line across the installation path, ideal for long runs.
- Spirit Level: Useful for shorter sections or verifying small adjustments.

- Chalk Line: Helps mark a straight path on surfaces before mounting supports ().

Step 4: Install Supports and Brackets

Attach wall arms, ceiling struts, or floor supports at the marked points. Check each support with a level before securing it. Ensure that brackets are firmly anchored to the structure to prevent sagging or misalignment ().

Step 5: Mount the Cable Tray

Place the tray sections onto the supports. Connect sections using couplers or splice plates, and tighten fasteners gradually. Continuously check the tray with a level along its length to maintain a straight and even installation ().

Step 6: Adjust and Fine-Tune

For long runs, minor adjustments may be needed. Loosen fasteners slightly to correct any tilt or sag, then retighten. Use shims or adjustable brackets if necessary to achieve perfect leveling ().

Step 7: Final Checks

- Verify that the tray is level along the entire route.
- Ensure proper clearance above and around the tray for maintenance access.
- Confirm that supports are secure and that the tray meets NEC fill and separation requirements (). By following these steps, you can install a cable tray that is level, structurally sound, and compliant with electrical codes, ensuring safe and efficient cable management.

Article Content

LEGRAND CABLE TRAYS TECHNICAL GUIDE

When fitting cable trays and their accessories, the products are cut on site to create changes of direction, adjust sections, etc.

Cable Tray Fill Rules (NEC 392)

This guide covers the cable tray types and their appropriate applications, the fill rules for each configuration, ampacity

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To install the cable tray supports, first find the required elevation from the floor to the bottom of the cable tray and establish a level

Cable Tray Technical Guide A practical guide to product selection

Cable Tray Technical Guide A practical guide to product selection and installation This guide for engineers and installers has been

Cable tray manual

INTRODUCTION The B-Line series Cable Tray Manual was produced by our technical staff. We recognize the need for a complete

Best Practice Guide to Cable Ladder and Cable Tray Systems

This guide covers cable ladder systems, cable tray systems, channel support systems and associated supports intended for the

Step-by-Step Guide to Installing Cable Trays Safely

Step-by-step guide to safe cable tray installation for industrial wiring. Improve safety, prevent overheating, and ensure

Cable Tray Ladder Trunking Wire Basket Installation Guidelines

Standard length of 3, 4, and 6 meters Channel cable tray is used for installations with limited numbers of tray cable when conduit is

What Are Cable Trays and How Do They Work?

Cable trays are deployed in large-scale settings where a high volume of cables must be managed efficiently over long distances.

IEC Standard for Cable Tray: Complete Technical Guide

Understanding the IEC Standard for Cable Tray Cable trays play a vital role in supporting electrical cables and wires in

Cable Tray Installation Procedure Guide

This document provides procedures for installing cable trays according to international standards. It describes inspecting and storing

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