

How to bend large cables in cable trays



Article Overview

Bending large cables in cable trays requires careful planning, proper tools, and maintaining the correct bend radius to avoid damage to both cables and trays.

Key Considerations

1. Maintain Proper Bend Radius Large cables, especially power or fiber optic cables, must not be bent too sharply. Exceeding the recommended bend radius can damage insulation, conductors, or signal integrity. Typically, the minimum bend radius is 10 times the cable diameter for power cables and 15-20 times for fiber optic cables, but always check manufacturer specifications. 2. Choose the Right Tray Type

- Wire mesh trays are highly flexible and can be cut and bent on-site to navigate corners or obstacles .
 - Rigid ladder or solid trays may require pre-fabricated bends or a cable tray bender to achieve smooth curves .
3. Tools and Techniques
- Cable tray bender: Designed for metal trays, it allows precise bends without deforming the tray .
 - Bolt cutters or metal bars: For wire mesh trays, strategic cuts and manual bending can create smooth corners without specialized machinery .
 - On-site adjustments: For tight spaces, lifting and gradually bending the tray or cable using leverage can prevent kinks .
4. Preparation Steps
- Inspect the tray for damage or defects before bending .
 - Clean the tray to remove debris or moisture for accurate bending.
 - Measure and mark the desired bend location and angle.
 - Ensure cables are loosely laid in the tray before bending to avoid stress.
5. Install...

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Cable tray

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