

# How to install cable trays on both sides

## Article Overview

Installing cable trays side by side requires careful planning, proper support, precise alignment, and adherence to electrical codes to ensure safety and functionality.

### 1. Plan the Layout

Before installation, determine the route and spacing for the parallel trays. Mark the path on walls, ceilings, or floors using a chalk line or laser level. Consider clearance requirements, load capacity, and separation between trays to prevent interference and allow future maintenance . Identify locations for bends, tees, or elevation changes.

### 2. Select Tray Type and Size

Choose the appropriate tray type (ladder, perforated, solid-bottom, or wire mesh) based on cable type, load, and environmental conditions. Ladder trays are ideal for power cables due to ventilation, while perforated or solid trays suit control or instrumentation cables . Calculate tray width and depth according to cable count and spacing guidelines to avoid overfilling .

### 3. Prepare Supports

Decide on the support method: wall-mounted cantilever brackets or ceiling trapeze hangers. Mark support points at standard intervals (typically 1.5-3 meters, depending on tray type and load) and ensure they are level . For side-by-side trays, ensure supports are wide enough to accommodate both trays without sagging.

### 4. Install Supports

- o Wall Brackets: Drill holes, insert anchors, and secure cantilever brackets. Ensure brackets are level and aligned for parallel trays.
- o Ceiling Suspension: Install threaded rods and trapeze channels, then level the struts to support multiple trays .

### 5. Mount the Trays

Attach trays to the supports using connectors and fittings. Align trays side by side, maintaining consistent spacing between them. Use a level to ensure trays are straight and parallel. For long runs, consider using cable tray rollers to facilitate smooth cable installation .

### 6. Connect and Secure

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Use splice plates or couplers to join tray sections. Ensure all trays are mechanically stable and properly grounded according to NEC Article 392. Bonding and grounding prevent electrical hazards and maintain code compliance .

## 7. Inspect and Adjust

After installation, visually inspect all trays, supports, and connections. Verify alignment, spacing, and secure mounting. Document the installation and ensure compliance with approved drawings and standards .

## 8. Cable Installation

Once trays are installed, route cables carefully, avoiding overfilling. Tie cables neatly to prevent sagging and maintain airflow. Ensure separation of power and control cables if required . By following these steps, side-by-side cable trays can be installed safely, efficiently, and in compliance with electrical codes, providing a durable and organized cable management system.

Learn everything about cable tray installation with our complete guide. Discover types, steps, and safety tips for

Installing a cable tray system requires careful planning to ensure it can support the weight of the cables and adheres

Metal area requirements for cable trays used as equipment grounding conductors For SI

What is a cable tray ? Both the Canadian Electrical Code (CEC) and its American counterpart, the National Electrical Code (NEC),

By following these steps, you can ensure a safe, stable, and well-organized cable tray installation.

A professional guide to installing electrical cable tray systems per NEC Article 392. Covers support,

Cable installed in tray is subject to many of the same considerations as cable being installed in conduit systems. Correctly calculated

Looking to improve your cable organization and create a clean, safe workspace? In this

Center hung tray supports allow for quicker and easier cable installation by allowing cables to be deposited into tray systems from

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Learn how to install cable trays for large-scale projects with our professional, step-by-step guide covering industry

Core rules for selecting, installing, grounding, and filling cable trays--clearances, materials, separation, and bonding

This guide covers the critical steps, from selecting the right electrical cable tray and performing accurate

When properly installed, cable trays prevent damage to cabling and the area's structural integrity. When

Cable ladder systems and cable tray systems are designed for use as supports for cables and not as enclosures giving full

We have summarized the precautions for cable tray installation to help customers quickly and correctly

Grounding and Bonding Connect cable trays to the grounding system to prevent electric

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