

How to cut a 35-degree slope for a cable tray flat

Article Overview

To cut a 35-degree slope flat on a cable tray, use a precise V-cut or angled cut with appropriate tools, mark accurately, and follow safety precautions to maintain tray integrity.

Step 1: Measure and Mark the Cut

- o Measure the slope height (H) and horizontal distance (L) of the 35-degree section.
- o Use a protractor or angle calculator to determine the exact V-cut dimensions for a 35-degree angle. Tools like the Cable Tray Slope & Fabrication Calculator can provide half-width, full-width, and marking intervals for the cut ().
- o Mark the cut line clearly on the tray using a permanent marker or chalk.

Step 2: Select the Right Tools

- o For metal trays, use a band saw, circular saw, or power cut-off saw with a blade suitable for the tray material ().
- o For fiberglass trays, use a fine-toothed saw or specialized cutting tool to avoid splintering.
- o Secure the tray in a vise or with clamps to prevent movement during cutting ().

Step 3: Execute the Cut

- o Follow the marked line carefully, cutting slowly to maintain accuracy.
- o For a V-cut, ensure the cut depth and width match the calculated dimensions to allow the tray to lay flat at the desired slope ().
- o Avoid overheating the material; use cutting oil if necessary for metal trays ().

Step 4: Deburr and Finish

- o After cutting, use a deburring tool or metal file to smooth sharp edges and prevent injury ().
- o Check that the tray sits flat and the slope aligns correctly. Adjust minor edges if needed.

Step 5: Safety Precautions

- o Always wear safety glasses, gloves, and hearing protection.
- o Keep surrounding materials protected from sparks if using grinders or saws ().
- o Avoid mixing cutting blades between different metals to prevent galvanic corrosion ().

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Optional: Use Fabrication Guides

- o Some manufacturers provide SVG diagrams or templates for marking V-cuts directly on-site, which can simplify the process and reduce errors ().
- o Follow hanger spacing and installation guidelines to maintain structural integrity after cutting. By carefully measuring, marking, and using the correct cutting technique, a 35-degree slope on a cable tray can be flattened safely and accurately, ensuring proper installation and long-term performance.

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