

DIY chamfering for cable trays



Overview

The document provides instructions for forming various bends and joints in electrical trunking and cable trays.

Key Takeaways

Chamfering cable tray edges can be safely done using hand tools or grinders to remove sharp edges, protecting both cables and installers. Understanding Chamfering

Chamfering involves beveling or smoothing the edges of metal cable trays to prevent cuts, abrasions, or damage to cables. This is particularly important for wire mesh or metal trays, where cut ends can be sharp after trimming or bending. Proper chamfering improves safety and ensures cables slide smoothly without snagging.

Tools and Methods for DIY Chamfering

- File or Hand Deburring Tool
- Use a metal file or a deburring tool to manually smooth sharp edges.
- Work along the cut edge in a consistent motion to remove burrs and create a slight bevel.
- Ideal for small sections or intricate bends.
- Angle Grinder or Rotary Tool
- For larger trays or thicker metal, a grinder with a flap disc can quickly chamfer edges.
- Keep the tool at a 15-30° angle to create a smooth bevel.

- Wear safety gloves and eye protection to prevent injury from sparks or metal shards.
- Bolt Cutters for Wire Mesh Trays
- When cutting wire mesh trays, bolt cutters can leave a dragged zinc layer that partially protects the edge .
- After cutting, follow up with a file or grinder to remove any remaining sharp points.
- Protective Caps or Rubber Sleeves
- After chamfering, consider adding rubber end caps or plastic edge protectors to further safeguard cables and hands .
- This is especially useful in high-traffic areas or where cables are frequently moved.

Tips for Effective DIY Chamfering

- Measure and mark the edges before cutting or filing to maintain uniformity.
- Work in sections to avoid fatigue and ensure consistent bevels.
- Check cable fit after chamfering to ensure smooth installation.
- Maintain tools: a sharp file or clean grinder disc improves efficiency and finish quality.

Safety Considerations

- Always wear gloves, eye protection, and a dust mask when working with metal.
 - Secure the tray in a clamp or vice to prevent slipping.
 - Avoid excessive force that could deform the tray or compromise structural integrity.
- By following these DIY methods, you can safely chamfer cable tray edges, reduce the risk of cable damage, and create a professional-looking installation without specialized industrial equipment .

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