

Where can I find cheap ladder-type cable trays



Overview

Ladder Cable Trays | McMaster-Carr Choose from our selection of ladder cable trays, including cable and hose trays, heavy duty open cable and hose carriers.

Key Takeaways

Ladder-type cable trays are cost-effective, open-structured systems ideal for heavy-duty power cables, offering excellent ventilation and easy installation. Overview of Ladder-Type Cable Trays

Ladder cable trays consist of two longitudinal side rails connected by transverse rungs, forming a ladder-like structure. This design allows maximum airflow, which helps dissipate heat from power cables and prevents overheating, making them suitable for medium- and high-voltage installations. The open design also allows cables to enter or exit at any point along the tray, simplifying maintenance and future expansions.

Materials and Cost Considerations

Ladder trays are available in aluminum, galvanized steel, stainless steel, and fiberglass-reinforced plastic (FRP). For inexpensive options, aluminum and low-carbon steel are typically the most cost-effective while still providing durability and corrosion resistance. Aluminum is lightweight and easy to handle, reducing labor costs during installation, whereas steel offers higher load capacity at a slightly higher price.

Advantages of Ladder Trays

- Cost-effective for large installations: Generally lower cost than solid-bottom trays for heavy-duty applications .
- Excellent ventilation: Open rungs allow natural convection, reducing thermal derating of cables .
- Easy installation and maintenance: Straight sections, elbows, tees, and risers can be connected with minimal tools .
- Flexibility: Supports heavy cables, bundled cables, and even small pipes across long spans .

Applications

Ladder trays are widely used in:

- Industrial plants and power stations for long horizontal runs of large power cables .
- Utility buildings and infrastructure projects where high load capacity and heat dissipation are critical .
- Overhead installations where easy access for maintenance is required .

Tips for Cost Savings

- Choose aluminum or low-carbon steel for budget-friendly options .
- Optimize tray length and support spacing to reduce the number of supports and fittings .
- Use standard sizes (e.g., 3-meter or 6-meter sections) to minimize custom fabrication costs .
- Consider suppliers with bulk discounts such as Grainger, McMaster-Carr, or Eaton for industrial-scale purchases .

Accessories

To complete a ladder tray system, you may need:

- Elbows, tees, and risers for directional changes
 - Covers for outdoor or harsh environments
 - Hold-down clamps and connectors for secure installation
- By selecting aluminum or steel ladder trays and optimizing installation design, you can achieve a durable, ventilated, and cost-effective cable management system suitable for industrial and commercial applications.

Article Content

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Aluminum Ladder Tray

C-Channel Swage Ladder trays are prefabricated metal structures that consist of two side rails connected by individual transverse

Cable Tray And Fittings | Graybar Store

There are a large number of cable tray fittings that are made compatible with each type of tray. These fittings help in maintaining

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Straight Cable Ladder Tray

Cable Runway Triangle Support Bracket Kit supports ladder rack from a wall. This Triangle Support Bracket Kit, LTSB18BLK item fits

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