# How to measure a Z-shaped horizontal cable tray on site



## Overview

Planning a cable routing or cable tray layout couldn''t be easier using one of these high-visibility tools. Browse our collection today and bolster your team''s productivity!

## Key Takeaways

To measure a Z-shaped horizontal cable tray on site, determine the overall length, width, height, and bend offsets using a tape measure, angle finder, and reference to standard tray dimensions.

### Step-by-

Step Measurement Process1. Identify the Tray Sections A Z-shaped tray consists of three horizontal segments connected by two bends. Label the segments as A (entry), B (middle offset), and C (exit).

This helps in recording measurements systematically. 2.

### Measure the Width and Depth

Width: Measure the inside usable width between the side rails. This determines cable capacity and ensures compliance with standards.

### Depth/

Height: Measure the vertical distance from the bottom of the tray to the top of the side rails. This affects stacking and heat dissipation. 3.

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## Measure the Horizontal Lengths

Use a tape measure to record the straight lengths of each horizontal segment (A, B, C). For the middle offset (B), measure the horizontal distance between the two bends. 4.

## Measure Bend Offsets and Angles

Use a protractor or digital angle finder to measure the angle of each bend. Z-shaped trays typically have 90° bends in opposite directions. Measure the horizontal offset created by each bend, which is the distance the tray shifts laterally from the original line.

5.

## Record Overall Dimensions

Total horizontal span: Sum of all straight segments plus offsets. Total vertical rise/fall: If the Z-shape includes slight elevation changes, measure the vertical displacement. Ensure that the bend radius meets cable manufacturer recommendations to prevent damage.

6.

## Consider Support and Clearance

Measure the distance between tray supports to ensure structural stability. Check for wall, ceiling, or equipment clearances to avoid interference. 7.

## Document Measurements

Draw a simple sketch of the Z-shaped tray with all measured dimensions, including widths, heights, segment lengths, bend angles, and offsets. This sketch will help in ordering fittings, verifying installation, and future maintenance.

## Tools Recommended

Tape measure or laser distance meterAngle finder or digital protractorSpirit level for horizontal alignmentSketching tools or mobile measurement apps By following these steps, you can accurately measure a Z-shaped horizontal cable tray on site, ensuring proper fit, compliance with standards, and safe cable installation.

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