

How to fix the cover of a vertical cable tray



Overview

Covers for components of the cable tray range are offered in flat, peaked, or peaked and vented styles and suit most standard widths.

Key Takeaways

Vertical cable tray covers can be securely fixed using clips, clamps, buckles, or screws, depending on the environment, access needs, and tray type. Common Fixing Methods

- Pressing Plate Fixing This method involves punching holes in the cover plate, placing a pressure plate over it, and securing it to the tray with screws. It works for both horizontal and vertical installations and provides a strong, stable hold .
- Screw Fastening The cover is punched and attached using a rotating screw buckle. This method is suitable for vertical trays and ensures a permanent, secure connection .
- Buckle or Clip Fixing
- Seven-shaped clips: Slide onto the tray edge and clamp the cover down. Some models may require a screw for extra security. Ideal for permanent or semi-permanent installations .
- No-weld clips: Snap onto the tray without tools, allowing easy removal for maintenance. Best for areas with minimal vibration .



- Rotating or riveting buckles: Provide a more permanent hold, suitable for high-vibration or outdoor environments .
- Padlock or Locking Fixes For high-security or safety-critical areas, padlocks or locking mechanisms can prevent unauthorized removal of the cover .
- Specialized Cover Clamps For demanding conditions like vertical installation or exposure to wind, PKP-SP series clamps (PKP-SP1, PKP-SP2, PKP-SPM1) can be used. Some clamps are screwed in place, while others snap on without tools, depending on tray type (perforated or mesh), .

Material Considerations

- 304 Stainless Steel is commonly used for clips, buckles, and clamps due to its corrosion resistance, making it suitable for indoor and outdoor vertical trays .
- For corrosive or high-humidity environments, always choose stainless steel or coated accessories to prevent rust and maintain long-term stability .

Installation Tips

- Assess access frequency: Use removable clips for trays that require frequent maintenance; use permanent buckles or screws for long-term installations .
- Consider vibration and load: For vertical trays or areas with vibration, choose clamps or buckles that provide a strong mechanical hold .
- Tray width and cover size: Wider trays may require hoop clamps or multiple fixing points to prevent cover displacement .
- Regular inspection: Check for loosening, corrosion, or damage periodically to maintain safety and cable protection . By selecting the appropriate fixing method and material, you can ensure that vertical cable tray covers remain secure, protect cables from dust and mechanical damage, and allow safe maintenance access when needed.

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NEMA Standards Publication VE 2-2006

Cable tray systems design shall comply with NEC Article 392, NEMA VE 1, and NEMA FG 1 and follow safe work practices as

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