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Price of connecting a low-voltage box to a cable tray



Overview

Explore low voltage wiring installation costs, applications, cable types, and best practices for reliable system performance.

Key Takeaways

The estimated cost to connect a low-voltage box to a cable tray typically ranges from $25 to $60 per connection, depending on materials, labor, and installation complexity.Material Costs

• Low-voltage junction box: Around $21 per box for standard drops .

• Cable connectors: Approximately $0.27 per cable entering the box .

• Conduit or drops: Using 3/4" conduit for each cable costs about $0.34 per foot, with clamps at $0.21 each for every 6 feet of cable .

• Cable tray supports: Overhead tray supports cost roughly $10 per foot, while conduit systems for THHN wiring are about $1.03 per foot .

• Tray material: Steel trays range from $5 to $25 per meter, aluminum from $6 to $30 per meter, and FRP (fiberglass) trays from $10 to $50 per meter depending on size and environmental requirements .

Labor Costs

• Labor rates for low-voltage cable installation are typically around $60 per hour .

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• For a standard 100-foot cable run, installation may take 4.5 to 9 hours depending on cable type and tray complexity .

• Additional time may be required for mounting the box, connecting cables, and securing drops to the tray.
Factors Affecting Total Cost
• Tray type and material: Aluminum and FRP trays are more expensive but may reduce long-term maintenance costs in corrosive environments .

• Number of cables: Each cable entering the box requires connectors and potentially additional conduit or clamps .

• Installation complexity: Multiple bends, height, or difficult access areas increase labor time.

• Safety and code compliance: Some areas may require conduit for low-voltage drops, adding 10% or more to material costs .
Example Estimate

For a single low-voltage box connected to a short cable drop (10–20 feet) into a steel cable tray:

• Junction box: $21

• Connector for 2 cables: $0.54

• Conduit/drop: $6–$7

• Labor (1–2 hours): $60–$120 Total estimated cost: $87–$148 per connection, with variations depending on tray material, cable length, and installation complexity. This estimate provides a practical range for budgeting purposes and can be adjusted based on project-specific requirements, such as tray type, number of cables, and local labor rates.

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