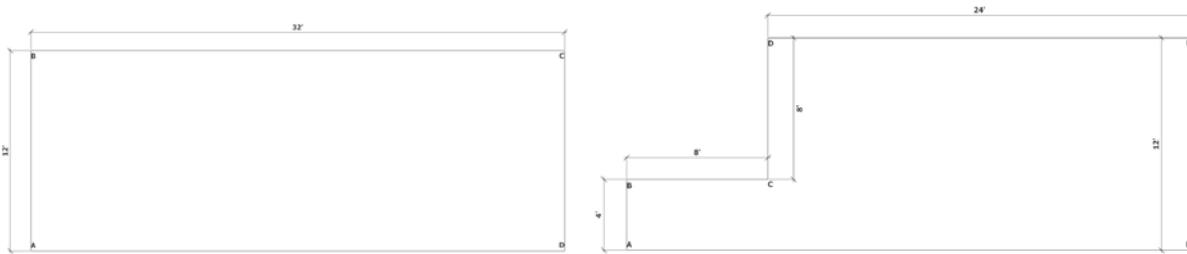


SAMPLE DECK RAILING LAYOUTS

We often receive calls where customers ask how much cable infill costs per foot. This is a difficult question to answer due to the variability of the factors that drive cost: deck size, layout, post type, railing height, stairs, etc. The following examples are designed to show how various decks might be setup for cable railings and how the layout and aesthetic choices can drive cost.

The two decks below use the same overall amount of cable, but differ in cable cost, post costs, and installation labor. This will be the case whether using wood, aluminum, mild steel or stainless. We recommend using two posts at the corners. This allows the cable to flow around the corner without stopping in most cases (depending on overall length and number of turns). The two lines on deck denote a house wall.

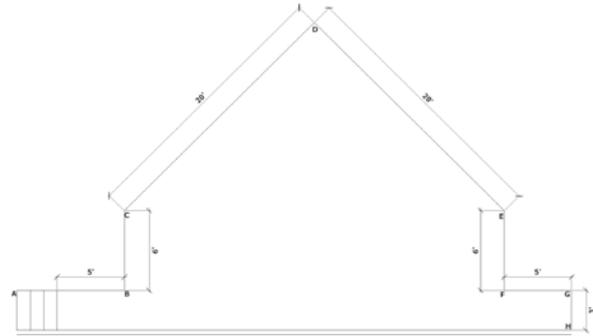
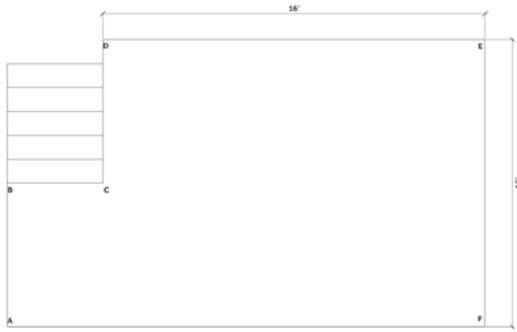


In a typical 36" high residential high railing, 10-11 cables (3" spacing) are used to fill the space. Adding the bottom rail usually reduces the amount of cables to 9. Both of the above decks are within the range of using only one cable for the entire run (56 ft.), but the deck on the right has four, 90 degree corners. This would cause a cable tensioning problem with the compounding friction of all the turns. So, while the deck on the left could be completed with a single run of cable, we would plan on stopping and starting the cables at point "C" on the right-hand drawing and add an additional cable run. With ten cables, 20 fittings would be added, increasing both the overall cost and the cost per linear foot for the package.

While there are several ways to setup the right-hand deck, point "C" was selected as the stop/start point with symmetry in mind. Point "C" is the only inside corner (inward bending corner). The cable then flowed through the three outside corners creating a symmetrical look to the cable.

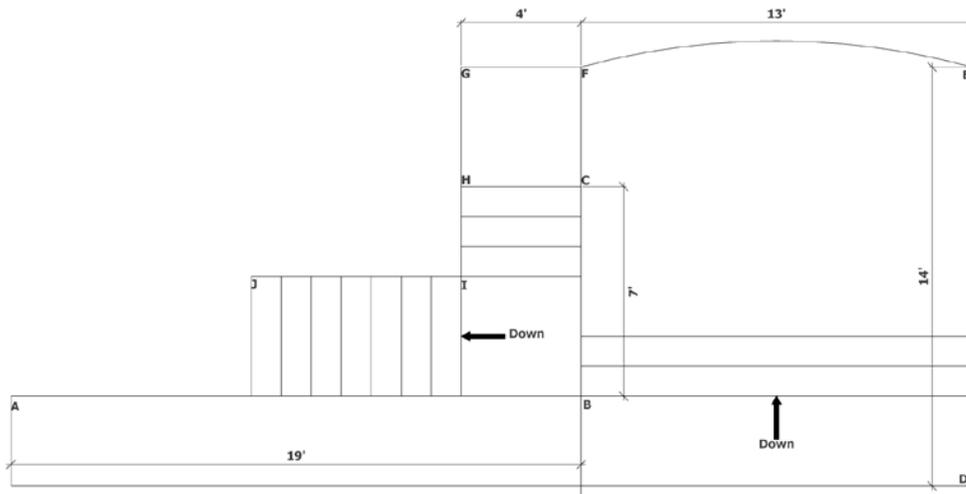
We are happy to assist you with your layout. If you are a contractor and will be doing additional cable installations, we will help you learn the basics so you can easily bid typical applications.

More Complicated Railing Layouts



The deck on the left adds a stairway. This is pretty straight forward. The cable can go from "A" to "C" at the bottom of the stairs with one run and around the deck from "D" to "G" with another run.

The right-hand is a different story. Again, there are several ways to setup the deck with cable symmetry and the homeowner's personal aesthetic playing a key role. The key for this deck is the setup at the prow and the two inside corners. These factors will determined the start and stop points and whether three or four cable runs are used.



The above deck was made for a customer north of Seattle, WA. Note the curve and different levels of the main deck. Working with the contractor, we decided to use six runs of cable. The first run was from "A" through "B". The second run started at "B" and ran down two steps and across to "C" (requiring careful placement of the post at the bottom of the stair). The third run started at "D", ran down the stair and again continued on out to "E". The fourth run ran around the arc and then straightened ending at "G". The fifth run started at "G", ran across the upper landing and down the stair to a shared single newel post at point "I". Finally, we used a face-mounted "Deck Toggle" on the adjacent side of the "I" post for the run down to the bottom of the stair. The "Deck Toggle" articulates and allowed the cable to angle down the stairway from the fixed point. Beveled washers were used at the bottom of the final two stair runs two create surfaces for tensioning.