Tensioned Cable Estimate Guidelines

This information will help you find the proper quantities of cable and hardware needed when installing Nixalite’s bird netting with a tensioned perimeter cable system. **Before using this guide** you must have accurate and complete dimensions of the areas to be enclosed with bird netting. For planning steps, see the [Planning A Bird Net Installation](#) brochure from Nixalite or call and talk with a Nixalite representative.

**Net Cable:**
- 250 foot spool = 225' of installation
- 500 foot spool = 450' of installation

**NOTE:** Coverage is always less than spool capacity due to extra cable used for cable connections.
**NOTE:** Nixalite does not break spools or cut cable to length. Always round up to the next full spool.

**Maximum continuous cable length:**
- 25’ with small turnbuckles
- 50’ with medium & large turnbuckles.

**Connection Hardware:**
Hardware used to fasten the cable to corner hardware (large eye bolts or screw eyes) and turnbuckles.

**Hardware needed for each connection:**
- **Ferrules:** 2 minimum at each loop connection. This is for cable runs up to 25’ long. Use of Swaging tool is required when you use Ferrules for Net Cable.
- **Wire Rope Clamps:** 2 minimum at each loop connection. Recommended for all cable runs of 25’ to 50’. Suggested for all cable runs 0-50’.
- **Thimbles:** 1 per connection. Required for wire rope clamp connections. Recommended for ferrule connections.

**Turnbuckles:**
There is always one turnbuckle per run of cable. For each change of cable direction, add at least one turnbuckle.

**Maximum Distance Between Turnbuckles:**
- **Small Turnbuckles:** 25 feet
- **Medium & Large Turnbuckles:** 50 feet.

**Tip:** If you have a mix of small and medium turnbuckles for a job, order all the larger size. You can’t install the wrong size if there is only one size to choose from.

**Corner Hardware:**
Maximum Spacing: 50’ between corner hardware.
For each change in cable direction, add one set of corner hardware. For each run of cable there will always be at least 2 corner hardware - at the start of the run and at the end. Use the corner hardware that best matches the surface;

- **Wood:** Large screw eyes.
- **Masonry:** Large eye bolts with masonry anchors.
- **Sheet Metal:** Large screw eyes.
- **Steel & Iron:** Large eye bolts with hex nuts.

**Cable Guide Hardware:**
Install every 2’ or less along the path of the cable. Cable Guides keep the cable close to the installation surface. Choose the Cable Guide hardware best suited to the surface.

**Surface:** Cable Guide Examples:
- **Wood:** EZClip, small screw eyes, lag eyelets
- **Masonry:** EZClip, small eye bolts, sidewinders.
- **Sheet Metal:** EZClip, small screw eyes
- **Steel & Iron:** EZClip, small eye bolts, sidewinders

If you are not sure which cable guide hardware to use, contact Nixalite or go to our website at [www.nixalite.com](http://www.nixalite.com) and review the netting hardware.

**Net Rings / C Rings:**
Net Rings come in 2,500 count boxes. C-Rings come in 11,000 count boxes. We do not break boxes. Net rings should be used on our multi-strand knotted netting only. Do not use on single strand extruded net like the PollyNet.

- Use 1 Net Ring for each netting mesh.
- Net to Cable attachment: 1 ring per mesh.
- Seams: 1 ring per mesh on both sides of seam.
- Zippers: 1 ring per mesh on both sides of zipper.

See the back of this page for Cable Installation Guidelines and Examples
Tensioned Cable System Installation Example

The information below provides the basic procedures for installing a tensioned cable system. This example shows an all steel surface. Your application may be different. If you have any questions contact Nixalite of America Inc.

General Procedures

1. **Install Corner Hardware.**
   
   Drill 9/32” dia. hole for corner hardware eye bolt. Secure with the supplied hex nut. Stainless lock washers or lock nuts are available but optional.

2. **Install Cable Guide Hardware.**
   
   Install cable guides 2’ o.c. Use Sammy Socket to install sidewinder properly. Align cable guide holes for cable.

3. **Fasten Cable to Eye bolts.**
   
   Use at least 2 rope clamps and 1 thimble for each eye bolt. Slide 2 rope clamps onto the cable first and push back out of the way. Push a thimble into the eye bolt. Make a loop by passing the cable through the eye bolt. Make sure there is at least 3’ of extra cable.
   
   Position the first rope clamp as close to the eyelet as possible. Lightly tighten the rope clamp nuts. Position the 2nd rope clamp 2” from the first. Lightly tighten the rope clamp nuts.

4. **Fasten Cable to Turnbuckles.**
   
   Run the cable through all cable guides before fastening the cable to the turnbuckle.
   
   Open the turnbuckle to its maximum safe length. Push a thimble into the eyelet of the turnbuckle. Slide at least 2 rope clamps over the end of the cable and push back out of the way. Make a loop by passing cable through turnbuckle eye. Make sure there is at least 3’ of extra cable.
   
   Position the first rope clamp as close to the eyelet as possible. Lightly tighten the rope clamp nuts. Position the 2nd rope clamp 2” from the first. Lightly tighten the rope clamp nuts.
   
   Adjust the length of the cable so the hook end of the turnbuckle will go through the corner eye bolt then tighten all rope clamp nuts.

5. **Apply load and Re-tighten all clamps!**
   
   After the netting has been attached to cable with net rings, the installation is tensioned by tightening the turnbuckles. In tension, multi-strand cables will stretch in length and shrink in diameter (small amounts). This can lead to loose rope clamps. Be sure to re-tighten all rope clamp nuts.