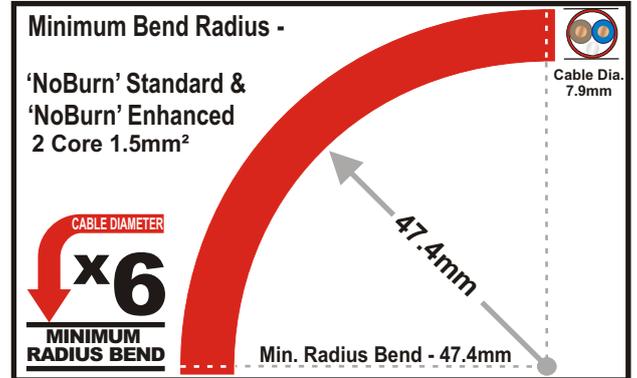


Installing Fire Cable

All fire cables carry a regulatory/manufacturers recommended minimum bend radius which it is important not to exceed during installation.

The sheath and insulation material of fire cables are made from special fire retardant low smoke and zero halogen materials. These provide superb protection during fire conditions but are not as robust as those used for general PVC type cables. Both the inner core insulation and the foil used to protect the cores can be damaged during installation by excessive rough handling while pulling through and in particular by over bending the cable. The damage may not show during testing but is likely to become apparent and reduce the duration of the alarm information carried by the cable when it is under fire conditions.



For NoBurn Platinum 'Standard' and NoBurn Diamond 'Enhanced' cable we recommend a minimum bend radius of 6 x diameter.

If you over bend a fire cable it is unlikely it will cause a problem with the continuity but where over bent the cable will very possibly not perform and provide the duration of protection that it should when the cable is under fire conditions.

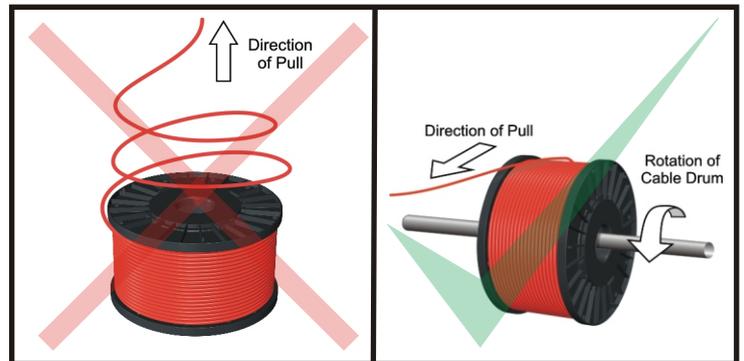
Termination & Reeling Off

As with all cables, care should be taken when removing outer sheath and preparing core ends for connection, this is particularly true of fire performance cable due to the materials used.

NoBurn fire cable has made termination both fast and easy for installers with an all in one easy strip outer sheath. The soft protective foil is adhered to the inside of the outer sheath and there are no additional mica tapes fibre wraps of plastic separators to remove – this will provide big reduction in labour installation costs by comparison to other fire cables.

It is recommended that either a reeling device or second person assists with the reeling off of fire performance cable.

When working at high level, fire cable can often be pulled so that the minimum bend radius is exceeded accidentally, this can cause short circuits and problems later.



Fixing a Fire Cable

BS5839 states all fixings used to secure fire performance cables must provide no less than the equivalent fire protection as provided by the cable itself. Ventcroft and many other manufacturers recommend a minimum fixing spacing of 300mm horizontally and 400mm vertical.

It is often how and what is used to fix a fire cable that can be the problem:-

- ▶ Plastic clips must never be used as the main support of a fire cable.
- ▶ Metal clips must still be used to secure a cable mounted in conduit and trunking.
- ▶ A fire cable must not be laid unsupported on for example a false ceiling.

Keeping a fire cable mounted firmly during a fire is of vital importance. A fire cable insulation relies on ceramification during a fire to ensure the core conductivity continues. If a fire cable becomes loose to swing and move, as would happen when for example the plastic clips or false ceiling are almost immediately destroyed by fire. The fire cable will not provide the duration of time it was designed to and this could cost lives.