



The Complete Contractor's Kit for Residential Cable Railing Projects



Why Cable Railings?

Cable railings are code-compliant and are multi-functional railing systems. They can be used for both indoor and outdoor spaces and work well with both modern and classic aesthetics.

Unlike traditional picket railing systems, cable railings provide limited visual interruption, so homeowners can enjoy the outdoor view from their deck, or bring an airy feeling to open-concept living spaces.

Components of Cable Railing Systems

Cable railings are often sold in kits, or the individual components can be purchased separately. Either way, a code-compliant cable railing system will consist of:

- Stainless steel cables
- Fittings and hardware
- Posts
- Top rails
- Bottom rails (optional depending on configuration)

Posts and railings can be made from a number of materials including:

- Wood
- Aluminum
- Steel
- Composite

Of the materials, wood is the most traditional. It can be painted or stained to nearly any color to match new or existing home design. However, wood also needs the greatest amount of ongoing maintenance and is the most susceptible to rot and weathering.

Aluminum and steel are often preferred for outdoor projects. In particular, stainless steel is corrosion-resistant, so homeowners looking for a durable material in high-humidity and coastal areas should consider stainless steel.

The right material for the project will depend on the:

- Overall look and feel of the home
- Whether the system is installed indoors or outdoors
- Local climate and proximity to coastal areas

Cable Railing Configuration

The number of kits needed for any project will depend first on the overall size of the project and the number of linear feet the railing will cover. Next, contractors will need to know their post spacing.

Generally, posts need to be four feet apart in order to ensure the posts won't bend when the right amount of tension is added to the cables. This tension is critical in keeping the space between cables to a code-required maximum.

If homeowners prefer the look of posts spaced farther apart, contractors have the option to add an intermediate post, which is typically thinner than a traditional post.

Cable Railing Pricing

Pricing a new cable railing system will depend on the type of materials chosen and the overall size of the project. While cable railing will often be more expensive than a traditional wooden picket railing system, it is comparable to other steel and aluminum systems, and typically less expensive than railing systems with glass panels.

RailFX Cable Railing systems typically range in price from \$\$ to \$\$\$\$. [Fill out our quote form](#) for a detailed quote based on your project.

To produce your quote, we will need the following information:

- Shipping address (to calculate freight costs)
- Style of handrail
- Stair and railing needs
- Type of mounting surface
- Height of the railing
- Type of mount
- Type of infill
- Finish color
- Simple drawing that includes measurements of your project

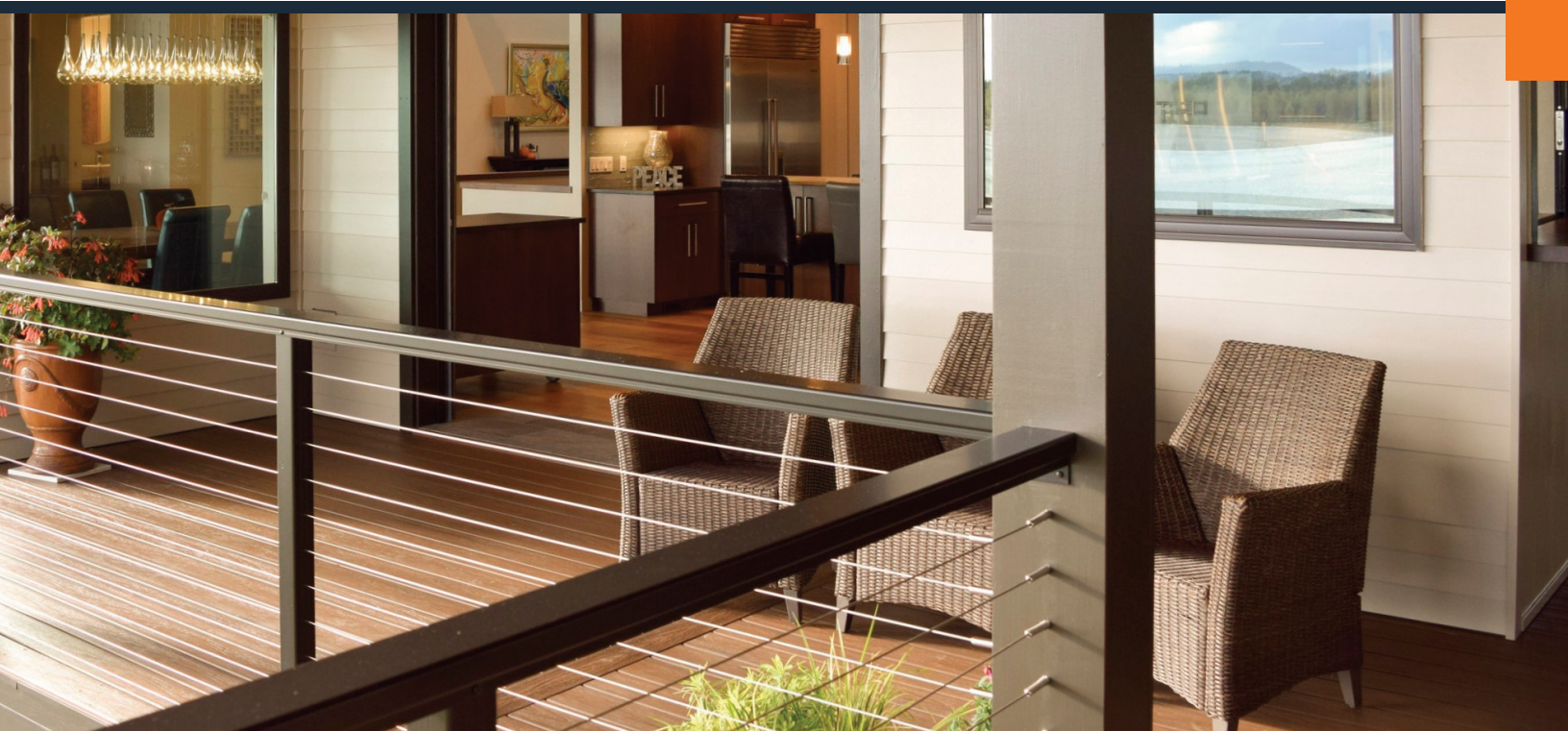
The majority of these questions will give you options to choose from, to make the process as simple as possible for you. If you get stuck at any time while filling out the form, we're always here to help you at sales@railfx.net or (206) 453-1123.

Cable Railing Installation

Detailed installation guides are available on the RailFX website. In addition to the materials and hardware provided in a cable railing system order, contractors will need:

- Angle finder
- Eye protection
- Cordless impact drill
- Cut off wheel (ordered separately)
- Cable release key
- Drill
- Earplugs
- Fine file
- Level
- Masking tape
- Pencil
- Power miter with an 80-tooth carbide blade
- Razor knife
- String/laser
- Tape measure
- Vice grips
- #2 Phillips bit
- #2 Square drive bit
- 3/8" drill bit
- 9/16 Socket with adapter for impact drill

Systems come with all the necessary components; posts are pre-cut and pre-drilled. All RailFX posts and top rails will come finished in the chosen color, so all a contractor needs to do is install and make any necessary length adjustments on site.



I Homeowner Questions

The questions below are intended to provide guidance when speaking with homeowners about selecting and installing a new cable railing system.

1. **Project type:** Are you looking for a replacement or is it a new build?
2. **Project timelines:** Where are you in the buying process: just investigating, currently budgeting or ready to start?
3. **Railing location:** Will the rail be indoors or outdoors?
4. **Specific location:** Where will it be located: deck, staircase, balcony, loft, other (specify)?
5. **Mount type:** What mount type do you want: surface, fascia, flush or core?
6. Preferred finish color (if any):
7. Preferred material (if any):
8. Is humidity/moisture/rot a concern?:
9. Is salt air/corrosion a concern?
10. Preferred level of maintenance?
11. Preferred rail height (if any)*:
12. Project dimensions (linear feet):
13. Number of corners:
14. For staircases, step height and depth:
15. Do you want a bottom rail?

**36" is traditional for residential applications*

