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## RE: QUILT STYLE

We make every effort to ensure that the directions in our books are accurate; however, there are times when information gets misprinted. We have discovered errors, primarily in the cutting tables for the quilts in our new book **Quilt Style**. Before you begin your quilt, click on the link below for the most updated information and corrections for your project. Then proceed to make your selected quilt using the new directions posted. Happy quilting!  
[Click Here for updated instructions.](#)

PROJECTS ONLINE: [FISHING WIRE CABLE IN CEILINGS](#)**Project Difficulty: Difficult**Estimated Project Time: *1/2 to 1 day, depending on accessibility***Tools and Materials:**

Ruler and pencil  
 Utility knife  
 Drywall saw  
 Keyhole or saber saw  
 Chisel  
 Power drill, as needed  
 1 or 2 fish tapes (depending on method)  
 Strong cord and weight, or plumb bob (for 1-tape method)  
 Wire strippers (for 2-tape method)  
 Electrician's tape (for 2-tape method)  
 Cable straps or plastic staples  
 Metal nail guards or steel plates  
 Drywall  
 Drywall tape  
 Joint compound

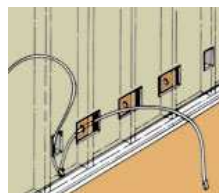
When you want to extend power from an existing wall socket to a new fixture in your ceiling, or connect a ceiling electrical box to a switch on your wall, you may need to run a wire cable between two points in the finished wall or ceiling. Electricians call this process "fishing the cable" because it involves using a tool that has a hook much like a fishhook. The tool, called a "fish tape," is a roll of flat, spring-steel wire used to fish and pull the cable through wall or ceiling spaces that cannot be seen.

In general, if the path along which you are fishing the tape is fairly straight, and you can easily get to the access holes, you can use one or two tapes. (You may need to use two tapes if one tape won't reach all the way.)

If, however, you need to turn a corner, you should use two fish tapes. An exception to this is if the corner is a horizontal to a vertical drop. In this case you can use one tape, with the help of a strong cord and weight.

**1. Cutting the Plate Holes**

To establish access to a wall or ceiling cavity, you'll need to make a hole in the drywall and a notch in the wood top plate that runs along the upper edge of the stud wall. Here's how to prepare holes for fishing cable from a ceiling electrical box to a new switch box or electrical socket. The procedures are basically the same for fishing cable from an existing switch box or electrical socket to a new ceiling fixture.



1) Turn off the electrical power to the circuit you're connecting.

2) Stand beneath the opening cut for the new ceiling electrical box and face toward the wall where the new socket or switch will be located. Visually follow the ceiling joists to the spot where the wire cable will turn from the ceiling and down the wall to the switch box or electrical socket. At that spot, use a ruler and pencil to mark adjoining 2-by-4-inch rectangles on the ceiling and the wall. Using a utility knife and a drywall saw, cut openings at your marks. This will expose the top plate of the stud wall.

3) Next, using a keyhole or saber saw and a chisel, cut a notch 3/4 inch wide and 1 inch deep in the top plate. The notch will allow the wire cable to pass through to the ceiling without interfering with the drywall.

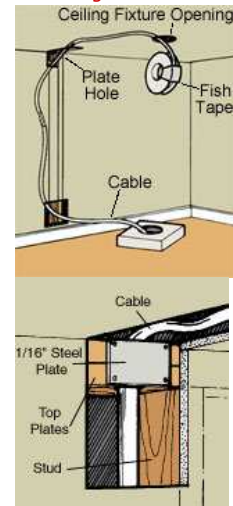
4) The knockout hole for the switch box or electrical outlet will serve as the lower access hole. This location is where you'll retrieve the fish tape, attach the wire cable to it, and then pull both the tape and cable up to the ceiling.

Note: If the wall studs in the wall where the switch box or electrical socket will be located do not run in the same direction as the joists near the ceiling electrical box, you'll need to route the wire cable across the stud wall; do not notch the ceiling joists. To do this, cut another 2-by-4-inch rectangle in the drywall, directly beneath the upper access hole, and at the same level as the proposed socket or outlet. Next, locate

each stud along the wall between here and the location for the box or socket. On the drywall at each stud location, mark off a rectangle 2 inches high and 4 inches wide, centered on the stud at the same height as the proposed box or socket above the finished floor. Cut out the rectangles, using a utility knife and a drywall saw. Drill 3/4-inch holes in the studs from side to side; these holes will allow the wire cable to pass through the studs to the new box or outlet. (Fig. 1)

Once you've cut access holes in the ceiling and wall, you're ready to fish the cable. Below are tips on how to fish cable using one or two fish tapes.

## 2. Fishing with One Long Tape



Here's how to fish cable through drywall, from a switch or socket in the wall to a ceiling electrical box, using one long fish tape. (Fig. 2)

- 1) From the electrical box opening in the ceiling, fish the tape between ceiling joists until you can grab it through the access hole cut at the top of the wall.
- 2) Tie a weight to the end of a strong cord (or use a plumb bob), and then drop it down through the access hole at the wall, to the switch or socket below.  
If the weight stops on a cross brace, measure down to the brace and cut a small opening in the drywall using a utility knife and a drywall saw. Then, using a keyhole or saber saw and a chisel, cut a notch in the cross brace for your cord and weight.
- 3) When the weight hits bottom, tie the connected cord to the fish tape above, and then, using the cord, pull the fish tape down and out through the lower opening.

4) Fasten the wire cable to the tape, and then pull it up through the wall, across the ceiling, and out through the ceiling electrical box opening.

5) When finished, use cable straps or plastic staples to secure the wire cable to the framing at each opening. Install a metal nail guard or steel plate to the outer edge of the framing members where the wire passes through the notch in the wood (Fig. 3). This will protect it from any nailing that could cause a short circuit. Finally, replace the drywall that you removed, and then secure it with drywall tape and joint compound.

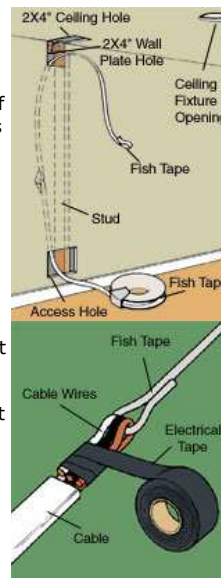
## 3. Fishing with Two Tapes

Here's how to fish cable through drywall, from a switch or socket in a wall to a ceiling electrical box, using two fish tapes. (Fig. 4)

1) Fish one tape into the access hole at the top of the wall enough to keep it from slipping out. Pass the other tape through the hole at the bottom of the wall, and then feed it up through the wall until it reaches the first tape.

2) When the ends of the two tapes meet, hook them together, and then draw the upper tape down through the lower hole.

Note: If the bottom fish tape is blocked as you fish it up through the wall, it probably means that it has run into a cross brace between wall studs. Pull the fish tape out a little, and then push it in again slowly, until it jams. Mark the tape where it exits the lower hole, and then pull the tape out. Extend the tape up against the wall. The tip of the tape will indicate approximately where the cross brace is. Using a utility knife and a drywall saw, cut a small opening in the wall at this point. Then, using a keyhole or saber saw and a chisel, cut a notch in the cross brace for your cable. Continue feeding the fish tape up the wall.



3) Hook the wire cable onto the fish tape at floor level (Fig. 5). Join the tape to the cable after first removing 3 inches of sheathing and insulation from the wire cable. Loop the wires through the hook and tape them to the hook with electrical tape. Then pull the wire cable up to the top of the wall and out through the upper access hole. Unhook the cable and secure it temporarily.

4) Fish one tape through the access hole at the ceiling electrical box and the other through the 2-by-4-inch access hole at the wall-to-ceiling joint.

When the ends of the two tapes meet, hook them together. Draw the tape from the ceiling box to the upper access hole in the wall. Attach your wire cable to the end of the fish tape and pull it across to the ceiling electrical box.

5) When finished, use cable straps or plastic staples to secure the wire cable to the framing at each opening. Install a metal nail guard or steel plate to the outer edge of the framing members where the wire passes through the notch in the wood. This will protect it from any nailing that could cause a short circuit. Finally, replace the drywall that you removed, and then secure it with drywall tape and joint compound.

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