

MC CABLE CUTTER & PIGTAILER

Cable Cutting Tips

(revised 10/01/21)

Most steel-armored cable will cut as normal with the installed, “coarse” (60T) notching blades! However, some steel cable is harder and can have a tendency to be “sucked-in” by the cut-off saw, especially the larger sizes. If you experience this or other problems with a hard steel cable or **any** cable for that matter, first make sure the machine is adjusted properly. Refer to the documents “Operating Instructions”, “V-Block Adjustment”, “Diamond Cut-off Blade Supplement” and/or “Correct Notching Blade Rotation”. If none of those help you, then try one or all of the following tips:

- Cable should be fed from a reel or spool holder with the “curl” pointing down to provide consistency and avoid unnecessary twists.
- The drills should be set to cut towards the cut-off saw. Refer to the document “bladedirection.pdf”
- Take your time making the cuts—LET THE BLADES DO THE WORK! Simply slowing the cut by a half-second will prolong blade life.
- Use the set of fine-toothed (132T) notching blades that you should have received with your machine. They are held to the underside of the V-block by a screw. Call us to order a pair or 10-pack. (NOTE: these blades are intended for steel use only and may or may not clog when used on aluminum...)
- Be sure that the notching blade cuts in the center of the cable. If it is off to the side it will tend to grab and push the cable instead of cutting into it. Refer to the documents “V-Block Adjustment” and/or “DiamondBladeSupplement.pdf” for the complete adjustment procedure.
- If your initial notching adjustment is too deep, the blades can grab. This is corrected by adjusting the hold-down pads from a shallow cut to a deep cut increasing the depth of the notching adjustments a little at a time.
- When cutting, use a deliberate, smooth motion and wait for the saws to stop cutting (“zinging”) before you raise the saws. Let the blades do their work!
- Try installing the cable channel guide about an 1/8” to the right or left of the cut-off saw slot on the V-block. This will usually be enough to hold the cable in place. This is especially helpful when you get to the end of a spool and the cable is very curly. The carriage bolts may also be moved or more added to aid in cable guidance.
- An additional wear cone can be added to the other side of the V-block.
- There are two holes in the hold down pads. Take 1-1/2” of bare #12 wire, (OR Update: use steel 1/16” welding rod—more durable!), bend it like a staple to fit into the holes from the bottom. Push up tight against the pads and bend the ends over to hold it tight. This can be done to one or both pads as necessary. As it slips, the wire engages the groove of the cable to help hold it in place. Remove the wire if you change to a cable that doesn’t slip.
- Bring the saw frame down to make your cut as usual, but before you raise it turn the power switch OFF.
- Please call/Email us with any questions or concerns...

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