

3.02 Do not let banded or single units of conduit drop in a free fall.

3.03 When moving or carrying conduit, be careful not to strike the ends against a hard surface. Damage to the ends can cause defective joints.

3.04 Both PVC and polypropylene have a tendency to assume the shape of whatever they are resting on, particularly when the storage area is warm. Store both types of conduit in accordance with the following:

(a) Conduit should be stored in the shipping pallet. Individual pallets should be stacked frame on top of frame to transfer the weight of the conduit to the pallet frame.

(b) When stacking loose conduit, place the conduit in a tightly packed orderly arrangement with all pieces oriented in the same direction.

(1) *Outside:* Place on a smooth surface of soil or sand.

(2) *Inside:* Place on a smooth level floor.

(c) Do not stack higher than 5 feet.

(d) Do not place wood strips under stacks of conduit.

(e) Conduit to be stored for more than 30 days should be protected from direct sunlight.

(f) If possible, store conduit in a cool location.

4. TRENCHING

4.01 In most cases, the trench sidewalls will act as a form for the concrete encasement of the conduit. The trench width should be no wider than is necessary to provide a minimum of 1-1/2 inches of concrete along each side of the duct structure. An excess width of even a few inches can greatly increase the amount of concrete required to complete the encasement.

4.02 Pavement should be carefully cut mechanically to prevent unnecessary widths at the top of the trench and thus reduce the amount of surface that must be repaved.

4.03 The total width of the trench will depend upon the number of ducts placed plus horizontal separation between ducts. The total depth of the trench will depend upon the number of ducts, vertical separation (if required) between ducts, and the depth of cover (Section 919-240-100).

4.04 Table A indicates the trench width, concrete depth, and volume of concrete required for various duct formations where there is no vertical separation and 1-inch horizontal separation between ducts. Figure 2 illustrates a nine-duct formation of this type in a straight conduit section.

TABLE A  
8 PLASTIC PVC AND 8  
POLYPROPYLENE CONDUIT  
NO VERTICAL SEPARATION  
TRENCH DIMENSIONS

DUCT FORMATION		TRENCH WIDTH	CONCRETE DEPTH	APPROX CU
NO. WIDE	NO. HIGH	(NOTE 1) (INCHES)	(NOTE 2) (INCHES)	YDS CONCRETE PER 100 TRENCH FEET
3	2	18-1/2	12-1/2	3-1/2
3	3	18-1/2	17	4-1/2
3	4	18-1/2	21-1/2	5-1/2
4	2	23-1/2	12-1/2	4-1/2
4	3	23-1/2	17	6
4	4	23-1/2	21-1/2	7

*Note 1:* Includes 1-1/2 inches from each side of duct formation to trench wall and 1 inch between ducts.

*Note 2:* Includes 1-1/2 inches below bottom tier and 2 inches above top tier.