

# HOW TO: Configure industrial shelving to fit your application

The right shelving in the right size in the right application—contact us for prompt assistance

**(1) Determine the type of shelving you need:** There are a number of industrial shelving types, but it generally can be categorized into solid metal, clip shelving, rivet shelving with particle board decking, and wire shelving. Each shelving type offers features that can be useful to you.

° **Rivet (boltless) shelving - most economical:** Steel structural components lock rigidly together for strength, with a particle board deck. It's the most economical shelving, with the highest load capacities. It's accessible from all sides; there are no cross braces. It offers the broadest range of sizes. Posts are punched so that adjusting & adding shelves is easy. Other potential decking materials include wire mesh, steel, and plywood. It comes in double rivet heavy duty and single rivet medium duty beam types. It adjusts on 1.5" increments. *Rivet shelving begins on the next page.*



° **Metal clip shelving - most accessorizable:** All-steel shelving adjusts in tight, 1" increments. It has solid metal shelves, in open or closed types. Metal shelving is the most easily accessorized shelving. It's able to accept bins, modular drawers, various dividers, doors, and other modifications. It is the most flexible shelving type because of this. Standard sizes have 6, 7 or 8 shelves, but more can be added or removed, depending on the stored product size. *See page 64 for metal shelving.*

° **Wire shelving offers a world of configurations:** It has open construction that doesn't collect dust or block sprinkler systems. It's attractive for in many applications where more industrial-style shelves might be out of place. Numerically calibrated grooved posts, tapered plastic split sleeves and shelf collars adjust on 1" centers for easy configuration. Wire shelving has amazing versatility and converts well into carts with caster kits. *See wire shelving models and options on page 60.*



**(2) Determine the width (left-to-right dimension) of the individual shelving units:** In many situations, this determines the amount of shelving that can fit into a row. Remember that shelf units are typically a bit wider than their shelf width dimension, which measures shelf size. The posts and space between shelves can add inches to each shelving unit, so take that into account when trying to lay out a row or a room.

Rivet shelving has the most available width option: 36", 42", 48" (double and single rivet), with double rivet widths of 60", 72" and 96" available for long, unobstructed spans. Metal clip shelving has standard shelf widths of 36", 42" and 48". Wire shelving offers 48", 60" and 72" widths. Other widths may be available for all sizes of shelving—contact us for information.

**(3) Determine the shelf depth:** This is the front-to-back dimension. Choose the size that best fits your stored product depth, such as a storage bin. Deeper shelves let you store more, but if you are picking from them, reaching items at the back may cause issues. Since you can get shelving up to 48" deep, it's important to understand what you will be storing in order to pick the right shelf size.

Rivet shelving has 12", 18", 24" 36" and 48" depths available. Metal clip shelving offers 12", 18" and 24" depths, while wire shelving has 18" and 24" standard depths.



**(4) Determine capacity needed:** Determine the weight each shelf will need to bear based on the weight of stored product, and number of products per shelf. This determines the needed shelf capacity. Note that this capacity is based upon evenly distributed loads. Shelving weight capacities: Rivet shelving ranges from 350 to 1,850 pounds per shelf. Metal clip shelving capacities range from 500 to 850 pounds per shelf. Wire shelving capacities range from 600-800 pounds per shelf. Some higher capacity shelving may have more shelf capacity than post capacity. For extremely heavy duty shelving applications, contact us for assistance.

**(5) Determine overall shelving height:** Some factors that may help determine this are: Ceiling height and number of shelf openings required. Shelf openings are the space between shelf levels, from top of shelf to top of shelf. For example, a seven shelf unit will have six openings. To determine your shelf opening size, you should consider your product height.

Standard steel shelving heights are: 75", 87" (most common), and 99". Rivet shelving can be cut to virtually any height, but 84" is the standard stock height. Wire shelving posts are 63", 74" and 66" tall with other sizes available.

**(6) Check our website for more assistance, specs, and details:** At [www.cisco-eagle.com](http://www.cisco-eagle.com), you'll find online calculators, a detailed online catalog, articles, detailed guides, shelving application forms, downloadable literature, and more to help you choose exactly the right shelving type and size for your application.

You can always call us for instant assistance.

