Size and width of household electrical distribution box

Overview

Find the right electrical DB box size for your home or project. Learn standard dimensions, NEC 2026 compliance, and key specs.

Key Takeaways

The width of a standard single-gang household electrical box is typically 2. 25 to 3 inches, while a double-gang box is generally about 4 inches wide.

Single-

Gang Boxes

A single-gang box, commonly used for one switch or outlet, usually measures 2. 25 inches to 3 inches wide, 3. 75 inches high, and 1.

5 to 3. 5 inches deep depending on wire volume requirements and device type. The width is standardized to accommodate universal switch and outlet cover plates, ensuring compatibility across devices.

Depth varies to provide sufficient internal volume for wiring, grounding, and devices like GFCI outlets or smart switches.

Double-

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Gang Boxes

For installations requiring two devices side by side, a double-gang box is typically 4 inches wide and maintains a similar height of around 3 inches, with depth options ranging from 2. 5 to 3. 5 inches.

The increased width allows for multiple switches or outlets while maintaining NEC compliance for internal volume.

Key Considerations

Internal Volume: While width is important, the cubic-inch capacity of the box is critical for safety and code compliance, as it determines how many wires and devices can be safely installed. Material Differences: Plastic (PVC) and metal boxes may have similar face dimensions, but internal volume and depth options can differ slightly. Installation Type: “New Work” boxes are designed for installation before drywall, while “Old Work” boxes are retrofitted into existing walls, sometimes slightly affecting external width.

By selecting the correct width and depth for your application, you ensure safe wiring, proper device fit, and compliance with the National Electrical Code (NEC).

Article Content

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Electrical enclosure sizes are not universal, but most manufacturers follow common size families. This guide explains typical wall-mount and floor

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Electrical Box Sizes Explained (Standard Dimensions Guide) -

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In this article, we will explore the specifications for household distribution boxes and provide guidance on how to install them correctly.

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Learn how to choose a distribution box and understand its internal structure, including MCBs, busbars, neutral bars, earth bars, RCDs, RCBOs, SPDs, enclosure ratings, and wiring layout.

Electrical Box Dimensions Manufacture

When you plan your next project, the right electrical box dimensions make all the difference. Large electrical power distribution boxes come in several sizes—single-gang for one

Understanding Distribution Boxes: A Comprehensive

A distribution box, also known as a power distribution box or electrical distribution box, is used to distribute electrical power safely to multiple

The installation requirements for the distribution box

A distribution box is the heart of any electrical system. It takes the incoming power and safely distributes it to different circuits throughout your

Distribution boards components

Distribution boards (generally only one in residential premises) usually include the meter (s) and in some cases (notably where the supply utilities impose a TT earthing system and/or tariff

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This document is for preliminary research. Verify specifications against current standards, product documentation and project requirements.

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