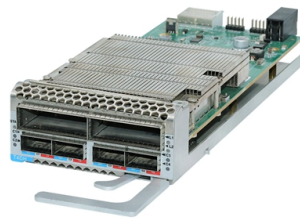


Hidden electrical distribution box in cabinet



Article Overview

You can conceal a distribution box inside a cabinet using a removable, decorative cover that allows full access while complying with safety regulations.

Safety Considerations

Before hiding a DB box, it is crucial to maintain clearances and accessibility as required by electrical codes. The National Electrical Code (NEC) mandates a minimum working space in front of the panel of 36 inches in depth, 30 inches in width, and 6 feet 6 inches in vertical clearance. Any covering must be non-permanent and instantly removable without tools to allow emergency access or maintenance . Avoid placing flammable materials directly against the panel, as electrical components generate heat .

Cabinet Integration Methods

- Custom Cabinet with Hinged Door: Build a shallow cabinet around the DB box with a hinged front door. The cabinet should be shallow enough to allow the panel door to open fully and movable if needed. Use magnetic catches or light latches to keep the door flush with the wall .
- Decorative Furniture Cover: Place a bookshelf, storage cabinet, or decorative cupboard in front of the DB box. Ensure the furniture is easily removable for maintenance and does not obstruct ventilation .
- Picture or Artwork Cover: Mount a framed picture, mirror, or mural on hinges over the DB box. This allows the cover to swing open quickly without tools while blendin...

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