

How big is a household electrical distribution box



Article Overview

A typical household electrical distribution box (breaker panel) ranges from about 12-24 inches wide, 14-36 inches tall, and 4-6 inches deep, depending on capacity and manufacturer.

Standard Dimensions

Household electrical distribution boxes, also called breaker panels or DB boxes, vary in size based on the number of circuits and amperage rating. Common wall-mounted residential panels typically measure 12-24 inches in width, 14-36 inches in height, and 4-6 inches in depth for standard 100-200A panels, with larger panels available for higher amperage or future expansion . Freestanding or floor-mounted enclosures can be taller and wider, often used in larger homes or light commercial settings .

Internal Volume and Capacity

The internal volume of a distribution box is designed to accommodate circuit breakers, bus bars, and wiring. For single-gang or small junction boxes, internal volumes are usually 18-22.5 cubic inches, sufficient for a single device and a few cables . Multi-gang boxes (2-4 gang) increase width proportionally, typically 4-8 inches wide, while maintaining a standard height of around 4 inches and varying depth to handle multiple conductors . Depth is critical: deeper boxes (up to 3.5 inches or more) are recommended when wire count is high to prevent overcrowding and comply with NEC fill requirements

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