

How to find the model and size of a distribution box



Overview

This document provides specifications for various distribution boxes including dimensions, mounting sizes, and number of ways.

Key Takeaways

To find the model and size of a distribution box, check the manufacturer label for type, number of ways, and rated current, and measure its physical dimensions while considering load requirements and future expansion.

Step 1: Identify the Manufacturer and Model

Most distribution boxes have a label or nameplate inside the door or on the side of the enclosure. This label typically includes:

- Manufacturer name and logo
- Model number (e.g., TOP-TS, TOP-LS, TOP-PF)
- Number of ways (number of circuit slots)
- Rated current (e.g., 100A, 200A)
- Short-circuit capacity and compliance standards (IEC, NEC, UL) Checking this label is the fastest way to identify the exact model and specifications of the box .

Step 2: Measure Physical Dimensions

If the label is missing or unclear, measure the length, width, and height of the enclosure. Compare these dimensions with manufacturer catalogues or online specifications to determine the model and size range .

Step 3: Count the Number of Ways and Internal Layout

Open the box (safely, with power off) and note:

- Number of MCB/RCCB slots (ways)
- Busbar type and arrangement
- Neutral and earth bar positions
- DIN rail space for future expansion This helps confirm the model and ensures compatibility with your load requirements .

Step 4: Check Electrical Ratings

Determine the rated current and short-circuit capacity of the box, which are usually printed on the label or in the manufacturer's datasheet. Ensure the box can handle your total load plus spare capacity for future circuits .

Step 5: Consider Standards and Application

Verify that the box meets local electrical codes (IEC, NEC, UL, BS) and is suitable for your application: residential, commercial, industrial, or outdoor. Also, check the IP rating for dust and water protection if needed .

Step 6: Use Manufacturer Catalogues or Online Resources

If the label is missing or unclear, refer to distribution box catalogues that list models, dimensions, and number of ways. Many manufacturers provide PDFs or online tools to match your measurements and requirements to a specific model .

Pro Tips

- Always plan for future expansion by choosing a box with extra ways and space.
- When in doubt between two sizes, opt for the larger box to avoid costly replacements later .
- Ensure compatibility with protective devices like MCBs, RCDs, RCBOs, and SPDs.

By following these steps, you can accurately determine the model, size, and suitability of a distribution box for your electrical system.

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