

Price of household electrical distribution boxes and wiring boxes



Overview

Circuit breakers are grouped in breaker boxes or electrical panels and come in single-pole or double-pole options.

Key Takeaways

The cost to wire a typical residential distribution box ranges from \$450 to \$1,800, depending on panel size, amperage, wiring complexity, and labor. Distribution Box Costs

Residential distribution boxes, also known as breaker panels or electrical panels, serve as the central hub for power distribution in a home. Standard indoor panels for single-family homes typically cost between \$150 and \$1,500, including materials and installation, with most projects falling in the \$450-\$1,500 range for 100-125 amp services with standard wiring and breakers. Premium setups, such as 200+ amp outdoor weatherproof panels with extensive wiring and specialty breakers, can cost \$2,800-\$4,000.

Wiring Costs



The wiring that connects the distribution box to outlets, switches, and appliances is a significant portion of the total cost. For new residential construction, wiring costs typically range from \$4 to \$9 per square foot, depending on home size, layout complexity, and wire quality . For example, a 1,500 sq ft home may cost \$6,000–\$13,500 for complete wiring, while a 3,000 sq ft home could range from \$12,000–\$27,000 . Rewiring an older home is generally more expensive due to labor-intensive work to update existing circuits and meet current code requirements .

Labor and Installation

Labor costs vary by region and complexity. Electricians typically charge \$50–\$130 per hour for rough-in wiring, and installation of a new panel can take 3–12 hours depending on amperage and rewiring needs . Permits and inspections add \$50–\$350+ to the total project cost . Installing additional circuits or dedicated lines can cost \$150–\$900 per circuit, while new outlets range from \$150–\$350 each .

Factors Affecting Total Cost

- Panel amperage and number of breaker spaces: Higher amperage and more circuits increase material and labor costs.
- Home size and layout: Multi-story or complex layouts require more wiring and labor.
- Wire type and quality: Copper wiring is more expensive than aluminum, and higher gauge wire costs more.
- Permits and inspections: Local code compliance can affect total expenses.
- Additional features: Weatherproof panels, smart monitoring, or energy-efficient components increase upfront costs .

Summary

For a typical household, expect to spend \$450–\$1,800 for a standard distribution box with wiring, with total wiring costs for the home ranging from \$6,000 to \$27,000 depending on size and complexity. Premium panels, higher amperage, or extensive rewiring can push costs higher. Proper installation by a licensed electrician ensures safety, code compliance, and long-term reliability .

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