

How high should the residential electrical distribution box be placed



Article Overview

A residential electrical distribution box should be installed so that the highest circuit breaker handle is no more than 6 feet 7 inches (2.0 meters) above the floor, with the bottom of the panel typically at least 12 inches above the floor for safety and accessibility.

Recommended Height

For indoor wall-mounted distribution boxes, the ideal height is generally 4.5 to 5.5 feet (1.4 to 1.7 meters) from the floor to the center of the panel, making it easily accessible without bending or stretching excessively and protecting it from minor water spills or impacts . For outdoor boxes, a minimum height of 3 feet (0.9 meters) above ground is recommended to avoid water and dirt exposure . Ground-mounted boxes should be slightly elevated, about 2 to 4 inches, to prevent moisture damage .

NEC Code Requirements

According to the National Electrical Code (NEC), the center of the grip of the highest circuit breaker handle must not exceed 6 feet 7 inches (2.0 meters) above the floor or working platform . This ensures that all breakers are within reach for an average adult, allowing safe and quick operation during emergencies. The NEC also requires a clear working space in front of the panel: at least 30 inches wide, 36 inches deep, and 6.5 feet high . Panels must not be installed in bathrooms, closets, or behind obstructions, and the working space must remain free from storage or equipment .

Practical Considerations

Article Content

Standard Outlet & Switch Height: NEC Code Guide (Floor to Box)

For a typical residential installation, the standard electrical outlet height is 12 to 16 inches from the finished floor to the bottom of the

CHAPTER 39 POWER AND LIGHTING DISTRIBUTION

ICC user note: About this chapter: Chapter 39 addresses the “rough-in” stage of construction in which the wiring system is installed

Where to Place a Switch Box: Height & Rules

Place a switch box near the entrance, on the door's latch side, usually 48 inches above the finished floor, unless local

Size determination, installation method and wiring mode of distribution ...

The distribution box is the central hub of the home circuit and the general control of our daily power consumption. It is an

Electrical Outlet Height, Clearances & Spacing

Specification of Proper Spacing, Location & Height for Electrical Receptacles (Outlets)
An electrical outlet must be properly located

National Electrical Code (NEC) Requirements for Panelboards

Clearance: Electrical panels must be installed in a readily accessible area with a minimum clearance of 30 inches (762 mm) wide, 3 ft

DB BOX(Electrical Distribution Box): Everything You Need to Know

Learn everything you need to know about the Electrical Distribution Box (DB Box).
Explore types, materials, installation

Outlet height from floor: A quick guide for safety and accessibility

Final thoughts: Outlet height from floor Have you been wondering “How high should an outlet be from the floor?” For starters, proper

Electrical Panel Mounting Requirements (Dictated by the NEC)

The National Electrical Code provision 110.26 clarifies that electrical boxes must be supplied with at least 3 feet of free

Installation points of household distribution box

The distribution box of household distribution box should not be installed too high. Generally, the installation elevation is 1.8m to

Contact Us

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