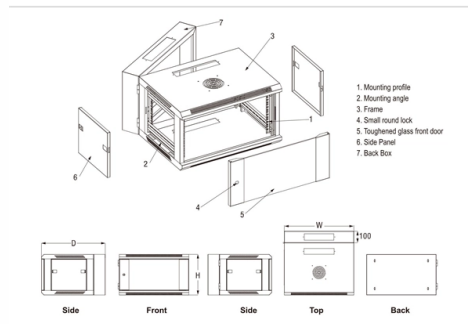


Method for connecting the distribution box by bending the wires



Article Overview

Bend wires at right angles toward the bus or breaker, keeping them organized and avoiding kinks for safe, neat connections.

Preparing the Wires

Before bending, strip the insulation from the wire ends, leaving about 1/4 inch of exposed conductor inside the panel box. For Romex or similar cables, cut a short section of the sheathing (called a “slug”) and slide it over the hot wire to protect the exposed end and maintain labeling clarity. Label each wire to indicate its circuit, such as “Kitchen A” or “Bath B,” to simplify future maintenance.

Bending Technique

- **Right-angle bends:** Wires should be bent at approximately 90 degrees toward the bus or breaker. This ensures a clean, organized layout and prevents stress on the wire connections.
- **Use standoffs or guides:** Small standoffs on the receptacle or panel can help create consistent bends without tools, keeping wires in the correct position and preventing sharp kinks.
- **Group wires:** Organize wires into like groups—grounds, neutrals, and hots—before terminating them. This makes it easier to attach wires to lugs and reduces clutter inside the panel.

Tools and Tips

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How to Connect a Distribution Box

Introduction Connecting a distribution box correctly is essential for the safe and effective management of electrical circuits. Whether

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For more information, pricing, or custom solutions, please contact us:

Website: <https://www.yachtchartercapetown.co.za>

Email: info@yachtchartercapetown.co.za

Phone: +27 21 863 4927

Address: 1st Floor, The Towers, 1 St George's Mall, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

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