

What size distribution box should I choose



AI Overview

Select a distribution box based on the number of circuits, total load, and future expansion, typically adding 20–25% extra capacity for safety and growth.

Key Factors to Consider

1. Number of Circuits: Start by listing all current and planned circuits, including lighting, outlets, and appliances. Each single-pole breaker usually occupies one slot, while double-pole breakers (for 240V appliances) occupy two slots. This count determines the minimum number of slots your distribution box must have . 2. Total Electrical Load: Calculate the total load in amperes or kilowatts. This ensures the main breaker and the box can handle the combined demand without overheating or tripping. Consider diversity factors, as not all devices run simultaneously, to estimate realistic maximum load . 3. Future Expansion: Plan for potential additions, such as new appliances, outdoor kitchens, or basement wiring. Adding 20–25% extra slots is recommended to accommodate future growth without replacing the box later . 4. Physical Space and Installation Location: Ensure the box fits the designated area with proper clearances for wiring and maintenance. Outdoor installations require weatherproof materials, while indoor boxes can use plastic or metal depending on durability needs . 5. Type of Breakers and Components: Consider whether you will use standard MCBs, AFCIs, GFCIs, or RCBOs, as some specialized breakers may require more space. Also, account for the main switch, RCDs, and other modules, which occupy additional slots

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How to determine the size of distribution box

The size of the distribution box is reservedWhen the electric box is only a lighting electric

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