

Price of installing control boxes and distribution boxes



Overview

Pricing for electrical box installation varies by box type, amperage, location, and required permits.

Key Takeaways

The total cost for distribution and control boxes, including installation, typically ranges from \$100 to over \$3,500 depending on type, capacity, and complexity.

Distribution Boxes

Residential distribution boxes (single-phase, 100–200 amp) generally cost between \$400 and \$2,000 for the unit, with installation adding \$200–\$1,500 depending on labor, wiring, and accessibility. For example, a standard 100-amp panel box may total \$600–\$1,100, while a 200-amp upgrade can reach \$1,900–\$3,400 including installation. Commercial or industrial distribution boxes are more expensive due to higher amperage, three-phase systems, and advanced features like smart monitoring, remote control, or surge protection. Outdoor or weatherproof enclosures carry premium pricing compared to indoor-rated units.

Control Boxes and Junction Boxes

Control boxes and junction boxes vary widely in price based on material, size, and environmental rating. Basic indoor plastic boxes can cost \$10–\$60, while metal or weatherproof units range from \$70–\$450. Installation labor typically adds \$100–\$300 depending on complexity and location . Factors influencing cost include box material (plastic vs metal), weatherproofing, mounting requirements, and whether the installation is a new run or a replacement .

Factors Affecting Installation Costs

- Amperage and capacity: Higher-rated panels require more expensive breakers and wiring.
- Material and durability: Metal boxes are stronger and more fire-resistant than plastic, increasing cost.
- Location and accessibility: Hard-to-reach areas or outdoor installations increase labor costs.
- Additional features: Smart monitoring, surge protection, or integration with building management systems can raise the price.
- Regulatory compliance: Weatherproofing, tamper resistance, and code-driven features may add to both material and labor costs .

Summary

For budgeting purposes, residential installations typically range from \$600 to \$3,400 including both the box and installation, while commercial or industrial setups can exceed this range depending on capacity and features. Smaller junction or control boxes are more affordable, with total installed costs often between \$100 and \$750. Planning for future upgrades, such as additional circuits or smart monitoring, can help optimize long-term investment .

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