

Install meter box in distribution box



Article Overview

Installing a meter in a distribution box requires proper placement, secure mounting, correct wiring, and compliance with utility and safety regulations.

Understanding the Meter Box

A meter box (or meter enclosure) houses the electric meter and serves as the interface between the utility service and your building's main distribution panel. It allows the utility to measure energy usage, seal the meter, and perform maintenance safely. The box has a line side (incoming utility power) and a load side (outgoing power to the main panel) and must provide safe, accessible working space for technicians .

Pre-Installation Considerations

- **Utility Approval:** Always consult your local utility provider before installation. They may require approved socket types, specific locations, or signed drawings to ensure compliance .
- **Location and Height:** The meter should be mounted where it is easily accessible, readable, and safe for service personnel. Utilities often specify a height range, typically measured from finished grade to the meter center .
- **Clearances and Safety:** Ensure sufficient space around the box for door swing, tool access, and future maintenance. Outdoor boxes need weatherproofing, while indoor boxes require proper ventilation .

Installation Steps

- **Site Preparation:** Shut off power, inspect the mounting surface, and remove any ob...

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