

Price of electrical distribution boxes in family residential buildings



Overview

Electrical Box Installation Cost Guide for U.S. Homes 2026 This guide covers cost, price ranges, and practical budgeting for standard electrical box install.

Key Takeaways

For standard family residential buildings, electrical distribution boxes typically cost between \$25 and \$600, depending on size, material, and features, with installation adding \$85-\$125 per hour.

Cost Breakdown

Materials:

- Basic single-gang metal or plastic boxes: \$25-\$60
 - Multi-gang or deep boxes with additional breakers: \$200-\$600
 - Premium enclosures (stainless steel, weatherproof, or smart-enabled): can exceed \$1,000 for high-end residential setups .
- Labor:
- Installation labor generally ranges from \$85-\$125 per hour, depending on accessibility, wall type, and local rates .
 - Complex installations, such as multi-gang setups or feed-through boxes, may require additional hours, increasing total costs.
- Additional Factors Affecting Price:
- Material of the enclosure: Plastic is cheaper but less durable; steel or stainless steel offers long-term reliability .

- Number of circuits and amperage capacity: More circuits and higher capacity increase cost.
- Safety and smart features: Surge protection, modular design, and smart monitoring systems add to the price .
- Environmental rating: Outdoor or weatherproof boxes carry a premium.
- Customization: Special mounting, labeling, or integration with home automation can further increase costs .

Long-Term Considerations

Investing in a quality distribution box reduces maintenance costs and enhances safety. High-quality units can last 25–40 years, though internal breakers may need replacement every 10–15 years depending on load and environment . DIY installation is not recommended due to safety, insurance, and code compliance concerns.

Summary

For a typical family residential building:

- Basic setup: \$25–\$180 for the box, plus labor.
- Moderate setup (multi-gang or additional breakers): \$200–\$600, plus labor.
- Premium or smart-enabled units: \$600–\$1,000+, plus labor. Choosing the right distribution box involves balancing budget, safety, capacity, and future expansion needs to ensure reliable and efficient electrical distribution throughout the home .

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