



Hidden location of the electrical distribution box

Article Overview

Electrical distribution boxes can be hidden behind furniture, murals, partitions, or inside cabinets, but must remain accessible for safety and maintenance.

Common Hidden Locations

Electrical panels are often placed in less obvious areas to maintain home aesthetics while complying with safety codes. Typical hidden locations include:

- o Behind furniture: Bookshelves, cabinets, or decorative furniture can conceal the panel, provided they are easily movable for access .
- o Inside closets or cabinets: Some older homes have panels inside clothes closets, kitchen cabinets, or behind appliances like refrigerators .
- o Recessed walls or partitions: Panels can be recessed into walls or hidden behind movable screens or partitions, allowing them to blend with the room while remaining accessible .
- o Decorative coverings: Murals, picture frames, mirrors, or custom wooden/fabric covers can hide the panel without obstructing ventilation or inspection .
- o Plant or decorative elements: Large plants or pots can shade the panel, adding aesthetic value while keeping it reachable .

Safety and Accessibility Considerations

Even when hidden, the distribution box must comply with safety regulations:

- o Clearance: Maintain at least 30 inches of width and 3 feet of front workspace, with the door able to open 90 degrees .
- o Height: The highest breaker should not exceed 6'7" from the floor, and the panel should be installed at least 4 feet off the ground .
- o Emergency access: Ensure the panel is easily reachable for power shutdowns, breaker resets, or maintenance .
- o Avoid moisture and obstruction: Do not place panels in bathrooms, near water sources, or behind permanent obstructions .

Tips for Locating a Hidden Panel

If you need to find a concealed distribution box:



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- o Trace the main electrical service line from the meter to the house entry point; the panel is usually nearby .
- o Look for a gray, rectangular metal box with a hinged door, often 12-18 inches wide .
- o Check utility rooms, basements, garages, or shared mechanical rooms in multi-unit buildings . By combining these strategies, homeowners can hide their electrical panels effectively while ensuring safety and compliance with building codes.

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Q. What's the best way to locate an electrical box that was covered over when the drywall was installed?
A.Sean Kenny

An electrical panel, sometimes called a breaker box, connects to the main electricity line

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Electrical panel boxes, aka breaker boxes, can be on a wall in an out-of-the-way area of your home. You can find

For the management of electrical equipment and wiring, electrical junction boxes are an integral part. However,



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The distribution box is the central hub of the home circuit and the general control of our daily power consumption. It is an

Discover everything you need to know about electrical distribution box! Learn about types,

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This placement allows utility workers to access the service disconnect without entering the home and keeps the

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