

Price of copper busbars for distribution boxes for sale

Article Overview

Copper busbars typically cost between \$8/m and over \$120/m depending on size, plating, and fabrication, with standard bare ETP copper around \$10-\$12.60/kg.

Price Range and Factors

The cost of a copper busbar depends on several key factors:

- o Material: Copper is more expensive than aluminum due to higher conductivity and durability . Standard ETP copper (C11000) typically costs \$10-\$12.60 per kg ex-factory .
- o Dimensions: Larger cross-sections increase weight and cost. For example, a 60 x 10 mm busbar weighs about 5.376 kg/m, resulting in a price of approximately \$59.10/m for bare copper .
- o Plating or Coating: Tin plating adds 5% (\$62.05/m), while silver plating can add 25% (\$73.90/m), . PVC, PET, or epoxy coatings also increase cost.
- o Fabrication: Bends, tap-off points, punching, and CNC processing add labor and tooling costs . Custom designs or insulated busbars are more expensive.
- o Order Volume: Bulk orders (≥ 500 kg) often receive 5-15% discounts .
- o Logistics: Freight, import duties, and express delivery can add 5-20% to the final price .

Example Calculation

For a 1-meter, 60 x 10 mm bare copper busbar:

- o Weight = $60 \text{ mm} \times 10 \text{ mm} \times 1 \text{ m} \times 8,960 \text{ kg/m}^3 \times 10^{-6} = 5.376 \text{ kg}$
- o Cost = $5.376 \text{ kg} \times \$11/\text{kg} = \$59.10/\text{m}$
- o Tin-plated version ? \$62.05/m
- o Silver-plated version ? \$73.90/m .

Budgeting Tips

- o Request multiple quotes from suppliers to account for material, labor, and logistics separately .
- o Include a contingency for market fluctuations in copper prices.
- o Consider pre-fabricated busbars from suppliers like McMaster-Carr or Amazon for small distribution boxes, which may simplify installation and reduce labor costs .

In summary, a copper busbar for a distribution box can range from \$8/m for small, simple bars to over \$120/m for large, plated, or custom-fabricated bars, with typical bare ETP copper around \$10-\$12.60/kg or \$59-\$74/m



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