

Standard Size of European-Style Household Electrical Distribution Box

Article Overview

European-style household electrical boxes typically use 86x86 mm faceplates with 60 mm mounting centers and depths ranging from 46 mm to 66 mm.

Typical Dimensions

European-style wall boxes are designed to accommodate standard outlets, switches, and modular devices. The most common faceplate size is 86x86 mm, with mounting centers spaced 60 mm apart (sometimes noted as 60.3 mm) to align with device screws and wall plates . Depth options vary depending on wall type and installation requirements:

- o 46 mm for shallow installations in solid walls
- o 66 mm for deeper installations or when multiple conductors are present
- o Some manufacturers also offer 35-47 mm for surface-mounted boxes

Multi-Gang and Modular Configurations

European boxes can be combined to create multi-gang arrangements, allowing multiple switches or outlets in a single row or stack. Modular devices, including GFCI/RCD outlets, can fit within these standard boxes, provided the depth and mounting centers are compatible .

Installation Considerations

- o Wall type: Solid walls typically use round or square back boxes, while drywall may use adjustable or clip-in boxes.
- o Cable space: Ensure sufficient internal volume for wiring, splices, and future upgrades.
- o Compatibility: Always verify the device depth and mounting alignment with the chosen box to avoid installation issues .

Summary

For most European households, the standard wall box is 86x86 mm with 60 mm mounting centers, and depths generally range from 46 mm to 66 mm, with options for surface-mounted or modular devices. Multi-gang configurations are supported by connecting individual boxes or using specialized multi-gang enclosures .

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