Clear distance from distribution box



Overview

That box must stay completely clear—no shelves, pipes, or storage—so an electrician can work safely without risk of contact with live parts or losing footing.

Key Takeaways

Maintain a minimum of 3 feet (0. 9 meters) in front and 30 inches (0. 76 meters) on the sides of a distribution box for safe access and operation.

Front Clearance

The National Electrical Code (NEC) recommends a minimum of 3 feet (0. 9 meters) of clear space in front of all electrical panels, including distribution boxes, breakers, and switchboards, to allow safe operation, maintenance, and emergency access. Doors and access panels must be able to open at least 90 degrees, and the space should be free of obstructions.

Side and Width Clearance

A minimum of 30 inches (0. 76 meters) of side-to-side clearance is required, or at least the width of the equipment itself, whichever is greater. This ensures that electricians can safely work around the panel without risk of contact with live parts.

Height Clearance

The minimum headroom in front of the panel should be 6½ feet (2 meters) or the height of the equipment, whichever is greater. This prevents entrapment and allows safe movement in case of an emergency. Domestic vs Commercial InstallationsResidential setups may allow slightly reduced clearances, typically 0.

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6 meters (2 feet) around the panel. Commercial or high-capacity switchboards require at least 1 meter (3. 3 feet) of clearance, with additional space for emergency exits if the panel is large or rated over 800 A per phase.

Emergency Access and Safety

For large switchboards or panels exceeding certain dimensions, multiple exit paths may be required to prevent entrapment during an arc flash or electrical fault. Switchroom doors should open outward and be at least 0. 9 meters wide by 2.

2 meters high to allow quick evacuation.

Summary of Key Clearances

Front: 3 feet (0. 9 m) minimumSides: 30 inches (0. 76 m) minimumHeight: 6½ feet (2 m) minimum or equipment heightDomestic panels: 0.

6 meters (2 feet) aroundCommercial panels: 1 meter (3. 3 feet) around, with emergency exits if required Maintaining these clearances ensures safe operation, compliance with NEC and AS/NZS standards, and protection against electrical hazards such as shock, arc flash, and restricted access during emergencies.

Article Content

Electrical Panel Clearance Code: NEC 110.26 For Homes And Garages

That box must stay completely clear—no shelves, pipes, or storage—so an electrician can work safely without risk of contact with live parts or losing footing. Meeting the electrical panel

Electrical Clearances: Requirements and Safe Distances

Every electrical panel, breaker box, meter base, and service disconnect needs a clear working zone in front of it so that someone can safely

Essential Guide: Electrical Panel Access Clearance Requirements

Conduct routine inspections to ensure that access areas remain clear and that the panels themselves are in good condition. Look for signs of wear, corrosion, or damage.

NEC + OSHA Electrical Panel Clearance Requirements

The area must not only remain completely clear of items at all times, but it also needs to be accessible. This means that you cannot leave an area around the electrical panel that is clear, but

OSHA Electrical Panel Clearance Requirements: Guide

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OSHA and the National Electrical Code (NEC) specify the minimum clearance distances required around electrical panels. These include a depth of 36 inches, a width of 30 inches, and a height of 78

What Is the Required Side Clearance for an Electrical Panel?

The 36-inch depth requirement provides a safe distance, allowing an individual to stand clear of the panel while operating the breakers. This clear space is determined by the potential for

NEC Requirements for Panelboards and Load Centers

Obstructions: The panelboard''s working space must be kept clear and not used for storage. No obstructions like pipes, cabinets, or doors can block access to the panel.

Safety Clearance Recommendations for Electrical Panel

Get access to premium HV/MV/LV technical articles, electrical engineering guides, research studies and much more! It helps you to shape up your technical skills in your everyday life

Electrical Panel Clearance And Marking Requirements

By combining clear physical boundaries (like floor tape) with precise, up-to-date labels, facilities can significantly reduce the risk of arc flash incidents, electrical

Clearances and creepage distances in LV electrical switchboards

Learn about clearances and creepage distances in LV electrical switchboards. Understand the importance of complying to IEC 61439.

Regulations / guidance regarding siting of distribution

Hello All Is there any regulations regarding the siting of distribution boards like level area in front of board and dimensions of area in front of board etc?

Your Guide To NEC Electrical Panel Clearance Requirements

The National Electrical Code establishes electrical panel clearance requirements to ensure that the panel operates safely and has a clear space in front of it in case of an emergency.

The installation requirements for the distribution box

A clean and well-wired distribution box isn''t just nice to look at — it''s essential for safety, performance, and easy maintenance. Here are a few best practices to keep in mind during

Requirements And Specifications For Installation Of Distribution Boxes

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In flammable and explosive environments, explosion-proof distribution boxes should be selected and explosion-proof treatment should be carried out. The installation of explosion-proof

Electrical Safety: Minimum Clearance Requirements for Panels

What is Electric Clearance? The goal of electrical clearance is the safety of electrical workers, technicians, and individuals requiring access to the panel, as well as maintaining a designated space

Optimal Distance Between Distribution Box and Septic Tank

Understanding the Distance Between Your Distribution Box and Septic Tank When it comes to septic systems, the distribution box and septic tank play crucial roles in managing

ITEM NO. 3 – CLEARANCES DISTANCES

ITEM NO. 4 – CREEPAGES DISTANCES Creepage distances shall correspond to a pollution degree as specified in 7.1.3 and to the corresponding material group at the rated insulation voltage (See Table

Electrical Panel Clearance Requirements: Ensuring Safety and

Electrical panel clearance refers to the minimum distance that must be maintained around an electrical panel to provide safe and unobstructed access for installation, operation, and maintenance.

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Technical inquiry: https://fdsoluciones.es/project-enquiry.html

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