Electric meter or distribution box



Overview

The meter box is a special box for electricity metering, such as ammeter, watt hour meter, power meter, etc.

Key Takeaways

A meter box measures electricity usage, while a distribution box distributes and protects electrical power across circuits.

Meter Box

A meter box is an enclosure designed to house the electricity meter and related service connections. It serves as the formal interface between the utility power supply and the consumer's internal electrical system, typically installed at the point of entry or on an exterior wall for easy access. Its main functions include measuring energy consumption for billing, protecting the meter from weather and tampering, and allowing authorized utility access for inspection and maintenance.

Meter boxes may also include anti-theft devices depending on local requirements.

Distribution Box

A distribution box (also called a distribution board or breaker panel) receives power from the main supply and distributes it to multiple branch circuits within a building. It is usually installed indoors in service rooms or accessible locations. The distribution box houses protective devices such as MCBs (Miniature Circuit Breakers), RCCBs (Residual Current Circuit Breakers), or RCBOs to safeguard circuits against overloads, short circuits, and leakage currents.

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Its primary purpose is to control and manage electricity flow to lighting, appliances, and equipment while ensuring safety.

Key Differences

Function: Meter box measures electricity; distribution box distributes and protects circuits. Location: Meter box is often outside; distribution box is usually inside. Components: Meter box contains the meter; distribution box contains breakers, fuses, and protective devices.

Purpose: Meter box ensures accurate billing and utility monitoring; distribution box ensures safe and controlled power distribution.

Types of Distribution Boxes

Distribution boxes can vary based on application: Main Distribution Board (MDB): Central hub for distributing electricity to multiple sections. Sub Distribution Board (SDB): Transfers power to specific areas like garages or parking lots. Meter Panel: Combines metering and distribution functions for residential or commercial use.

Understanding the distinction between these two enclosures is essential for safe electrical installation, maintenance, and compliance with regulations. Proper selection and placement ensure both accurate energy measurement and reliable circuit protection.

Article Content

Meter Box vs Distribution Box: 8 Key Differences You

Understand the difference between meter boxes and distribution boxes, their roles, safety functions, standards, and correct applications in

Difference between meter box and distribution box

The electricity meter installed in the electricity meter box belongs to the "metering box", which has anti-theft devices according to different requirements;

Difference between meter box and distribution box

The meter box is a special box for electricity metering, such as ammeter, watt hour meter, power meter, etc. The distribution box is a special box for low-voltage

Distribution Board vs Box: Which Do You Need?

A distribution board controls and protects multiple circuits, while a distribution box usually houses local wiring or smaller power connections.

Distribution Box Guide: Types, Components & Solutions

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Understand distribution boxes (DB boxes) in 5 minutes. Learn about types, components, functions, and uses. Find the perfect DB box for your needs.

Electrical Control Panels & Distribution Boxes: Sizes,

Learn about control panels, breaker boxes, junction boxes, and custom enclosures. Explore standard panel sizes, applications, and key

Difference between meter box and distribution box

Electricity meter box is a special box for measuring electricity, such as ammeter, electricity meter, electricity meter and so on. Distribution box is a

Electric Meter Box Products – Boxes, Doors, Frames

Electric meter box replacements are essential for protecting your electrical meter from weather, tampering, and damage — while keeping your installation safe

Distribution Boxes Types – The Complete Guide

A commonly used distribution box contains doorbells, earth leakage devices, timers, or contact breakers. However, the distribution boxes have several sizes and designs suitable for

Where Is the Distribution Box Located and How to Find It

Learn where distribution boxes are typically located in homes and get step-by-step instructions for finding your electrical panel. Includes safety tips and

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A single service energy meter box is a durable, weatherproof enclosure designed to protect a single electricity meter from environmental factors like dust and water, as well as from tampering. These

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Wiring of the Distribution Board From Energy Meter to the Consumer

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Electrical Wiring Installation of the Distribution Board (Single Phase Supply) (From Utility Pole & Energy Meter to the Consumer Unit. How to Wire Distribution Board? DIY Home Electric Supply Wiring

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Products Circuit Breaker & Automatic Transfer Switch Relay, Contactor, Starter & Frequency Inverter Power Equipment and Solar Instruments Indicator & Switch &

How a Home Electrical System Works

An electric meter, monitored by your electric utility company, is mounted where the electricity enters your house. The main panel is usually right next to or under the meter. This is the

Electric Meter Box Cover

Convenient flip design: The decorative meter box cover boasts a flip-style design for easy opening and closing, making it user-friendly and efficient. It seamlessly conceals the meter box,

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This document is for preliminary research. Verify specifications against current standards, product documentation and project requirements.

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