Price of dividing the distribution box enclosure

Overview

Key cost drivers include panel amperage, indoor vs outdoor location, wiring length, and whether a full panel upgrade or rerouting is needed.

Key Takeaways

The cost of dividing or upgrading a distribution box enclosure typically ranges from $200 for a basic sub-panel to $6,000 for a high-capacity, weatherproof, or smart system, depending on size, material, and installation complexity.

Cost Overview

The price of a distribution box enclosure depends on several factors: Material and Construction: Basic ABS plastic enclosures start around $200, while powder-coated steel or stainless steel units can cost $500–$2,000 or more due to durability and corrosion resistance. Capacity and Amperage: Residential sub-panels (100–125A) generally cost $1,200–$2,500 including labor, while larger 200A outdoor panels with meter sockets can reach $3,000–$6,000. Installation and Labor: Labor costs vary by region and complexity, typically $75–$120 per hour, with projects taking 6–24 hours depending on rerouting, rewiring, or adding circuits.

Additional Features: Weatherproofing, smart monitoring, surge protection, and modular designs for future expansion can increase costs. Outdoor-rated or high-tech enclosures often carry a premium. Permits and Compliance: Permit fees and code compliance upgrades can add $200–$1,000 to the total project cost.

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Typical Scenarios

Basic Residential Sub-

Panel: $200–$500 for the enclosure alone; $1,200–$2,500 including installation for a 100–125A indoor panel.

Mid-

Range Upgrade: 150–200A outdoor panel with some rerouting, weatherproof box, and new breakers: $2,900–$3,200 total, including materials, labor, and permits. Premium or Industrial Setup: 200A service upgrade with meter relocation, full rewiring, complex routing, and smart features: $4,500–$6,400 or more.

Factors Affecting Price

Indoor vs Outdoor Installation: Outdoor enclosures require weatherproofing and often cost more. Number of Circuits: More circuits increase the cost of breakers and busbars. Customization: Modular or smart systems for future expansion or energy monitoring add to the upfront cost.

Regional Labor Rates: Urban areas and regions with higher permit fees can increase total expenses. Existing Wiring Condition: Older or inaccessible wiring may require additional labor and materials.

Summary

Dividing or upgrading a distribution box enclosure can range from a few hundred dollars for a simple indoor sub-panel to several thousand dollars for high-capacity, outdoor, or smart systems. Planning should account for materials, labor, permits, and future expansion needs to ensure safety, compliance, and long-term reliability.

Article Content

Distribution Box Replacement Cost Guide 2026

Key cost drivers include panel amperage, indoor vs outdoor location, wiring length, and whether a full panel upgrade or rerouting is needed. The article outlines cost ranges, per-unit pricing,

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Distribution Box Replacement Cost Guide – Design Transition Studio

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What Drives Price Key price variables include amperage, panel type, and wiring complexity. Upgrading from 100A to 200A generally adds material costs for a larger enclosure and

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