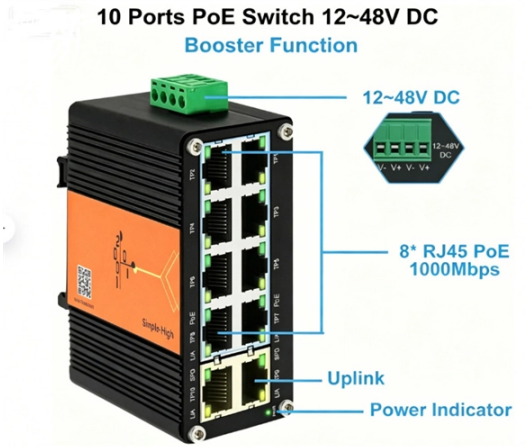
Labor cost for assembling electrical boxes



Overview

Electrical Box Installation Cost: Price Ranges, Components, and Cost. Typical labor ranges from $50-$125 per hour depending on region and qualifications.

Key Takeaways

Labor for installing or assembling electrical boxes typically ranges from $60 to $150 per hour, or $500 to $1,500 per project depending on complexity and location.

Typical Labor Rates

For standard residential electrical box installation, electricians generally charge $60–$125 per hour for basic work, with rates increasing for multi-gang boxes, feed-through panels, or complex wiring scenarios. Licensed electricians may charge $75–$150 per hour, with Master electricians commanding higher rates due to advanced expertise and oversight requirements. Some contractors offer flat-rate fees for predictable tasks, often ranging from $500 to $1,500 for a complete box installation.

Factors Affecting Labor Costs

Box Type and Size: Single-gang plastic boxes are simpler and faster to install, while metal, multi-gang, or deep boxes require more labor and specialized fittings, increasing costs by 20–40%. Accessibility: Boxes located behind appliances, in concrete walls, or in tight spaces can add 15–30% to labor costs due to extra effort and time. Wiring Complexity: Rewiring, running new conduits, or integrating surge protection increases labor time and hourly charges.

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Regional Labor Rates: Labor costs vary by location; for example, Northeast U. S. rates are typically higher than Midwest or Southern rates, with regional differences ranging from -15% to +25% relative to the national average. Permits and Inspections: Some installations require permits or safety inspections, which can add to labor costs if electricians handle the paperwork or scheduling.

Project Examples

Basic single-gang box replacement: $100–$350 total, with labor being the main driver if wiring is straightforward. Multi-gang or feed-through box installation: $200–$600 for materials plus labor, with hourly rates applied for more complex setups. Electrical panel upgrades or main breaker installations: $1,200–$4,500 total, with labor intensity and panel type significantly influencing costs.

Summary

Labor for assembling electrical boxes is influenced by box type, accessibility, wiring complexity, and regional rates. Homeowners can expect hourly rates of $60–$150 or flat fees of $500–$1,500 for standard installations, with higher costs for multi-gang boxes, panel upgrades, or challenging locations. Planning for these variables ensures accurate budgeting and avoids unexpected expenses.

Article Content

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NECA Manual of Labor Units (MLU)

The NECA Manual of Labor Units has been the estimating resource of choice for electrical contractors since 1923. Get access to the latest edition.

Labor Units Manual

It is the responsibility of the Electrical Estimator to identify conditions that may require more or less labor. The labor units in this manual do not include any non-productive time for supervision. If the crew size

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

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