

Cable Relocation in Distribution Box



Overview

I'm looking for advice on how to ask Comcast to relocate the cable distribution box that ultimately feeds my house.

Key Takeaways

Relocating cables in a distribution box requires de-energizing the circuit, installing accessible junction boxes if needed, and carefully extending or rerouting wires to the new location while following electrical codes. Safety First

Before any work, turn off the circuit breaker supplying the distribution box and verify the wires are de-energized using a non-contact voltage tester. Confirm the tester works on a live circuit first to ensure accuracy (). Safety is critical to prevent electrical shock or fire hazards.

Assess Cable Length and Plan the Route

Check if the existing non-metallic (NM) sheathed cable is long enough to reach the new location without straining connections. If the cable is too short, you must install an accessible junction box at the original location to splice in a new cable that reaches the new box (). Plan the route to avoid studs, plumbing, or HVAC ducts, and ensure the new box location has sufficient wall cavity depth.

Installing Junction Boxes and Extending Wires

- Install a junction box at the original cable location if extension is needed. Ensure it remains permanently accessible as required by code ().
- Splice the old and new wires inside the junction box using approved wire connectors or wire nuts ().

- Run the new cable along the planned route, using fish tape or wire pullers to guide the cable through walls, floors, or ceilings ().

Preparing the New Box Location

- Trace the new box outline on the wall and cut the opening.
- Ensure the box volume meets code requirements for the number of conductors and devices ().
- Secure the new box in place and pull the extended cable into it.

Termination and Testing

- Strip the cable ends and connect them to the appropriate terminals in the new box.
- Double-check all connections are tight and properly insulated.
- Restore power and test the circuit to ensure proper operation.

Tips for Efficient Cable Relocation

- Use a second person to help guide the cable and hold a flashlight when fishing wires.
- Drill holes through joists or studs at an angle to minimize wall damage.
- Avoid making splices inside walls; always use accessible junction boxes (). By following these steps, you can safely relocate cables in a distribution box while maintaining compliance with electrical codes and ensuring long-term safety.

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Move or remove equipment

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