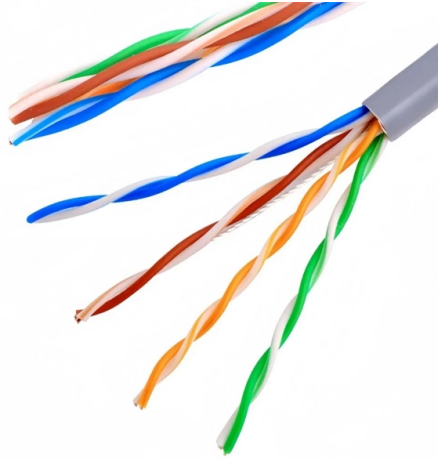


Price of Standard Ground Wire for Distribution Boxes



Overview

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Key Takeaways

The standard price of copper ground wire for distribution boxes typically ranges from \$0.50 to \$2.50 per foot, depending on gauge, material, and insulation type. Pricing Overview

- **Copper Ground Wire:** Solid or stranded copper is the most common material due to its excellent conductivity and corrosion resistance. Prices generally range from \$0.50 to \$2.50 per foot, with 10 AWG solid copper wire often costing around \$1.00–\$1.50 per foot for standard bare copper options .
- **Insulated vs Bare Wire:** Insulated wires (THHN/THWN) are slightly more expensive than bare copper due to added protection against moisture and environmental stressors .
- **Length and Packaging:** Bulk purchases, such as 100–800 ft spools, reduce the per-foot cost. For example, an 800 ft 10-gauge solid copper wire can be priced around \$150–\$200, which equates to roughly \$0.19–\$0.25 per foot .



- **Alternative Materials:** Aluminum-core copper-coated wires or tinned copper wires are used in specific environments. These may cost slightly more due to specialized coatings or hybrid construction .

Factors Affecting Price

- **Wire Gauge:** Thicker wires (lower AWG numbers) cost more due to higher copper content.

- **Material Quality:** Pure copper is more expensive than aluminum or steel alternatives. Tinned or coated copper adds corrosion resistance but increases cost.

- **Environmental Requirements:** Outdoor, underground, or corrosive environments require insulated or coated wires, which are priced higher.

- **Supplier and Brand:** Prices vary between suppliers like Home Depot, Amazon, Southwire, and McMaster-Carr, with bulk orders often offering discounts .

Practical Advice

- Always select a wire gauge and material that complies with NEC and local electrical codes for distribution boxes.
- Consider bulk purchases for large projects to reduce per-foot cost.
- For outdoor or corrosive environments, insulated or tinned copper wires are recommended despite slightly higher prices .
- Consult a licensed electrician to ensure proper sizing and installation, as inadequate grounding can lead to equipment damage, fire hazards, or electric shock . By considering these factors, you can estimate the standard price range for ground wires suitable for distribution boxes and make informed purchasing decisions.

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