# Switch above the distribution box



## Overview

Here, a double pole MCB is used as the Main MCB or Main switch. It has the highest capacity than other MCBs used in the DB.

## Key Takeaways

A switch above a distribution box should be mounted at a height that ensures accessibility, safety, and compliance with electrical standards, typically between 1350mm and 1450mm (4. 4–4. 8 ft) above the floor.

### Recommended Height and Accessibility

For safe and practical use, the main switch or isolation switch above a distribution box should be easily reachable without ladders or awkward stretching. In new builds in England and Wales, Part M of the Building Regulations recommends a height of 1350mm to 1450mm, which allows most adults to operate the switch comfortably while preventing small children from accessing live components.

### In the U

S, the NEC specifies that panelboards should be installed so that the top of the panel does not exceed 6 ft 7 in (2 meters) above the floor, with a clear working space in front of the panel for safe operation and maintenance.

### Importance of Isolation Switches

© 2026 ALFA PRO COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved

Isolation switches, also called disconnectors, are critical for safety. They completely de-energize the circuit, providing a visible break that ensures maintenance personnel can work safely without risk of electric shock. Modern isolation switches often include lockout/tagout (LOTO) provisions, allowing the switch to be locked in the open position during maintenance.

This is especially important when the switch is mounted above a distribution box, as it ensures that downstream circuits are fully isolated.

### Practical Considerations

Accessibility: Ensure the switch is reachable for routine operation, testing, and emergency shutdowns. Avoid mounting too high or too low. Clearance: Maintain sufficient space in front of the distribution box for opening the cover fully and performing maintenance.

Safety: Position the switch so that it is not easily accessible to children, and ensure it is clearly labeled. Wiring: When connecting a changeover or main switch to the distribution board, follow proper wiring procedures to maintain circuit integrity and safety.

### Summary

Mounting a switch above a distribution box requires balancing ergonomic reach, safety, and code compliance. A height of 1350–1450mm is generally recommended for accessibility and safety, while isolation switches provide a critical safety mechanism for maintenance. Always ensure proper clearance and follow wiring standards to maintain a safe and functional electrical installation.

## Article Content

Standard Heights for Electrical Switches | PDF | Ac Power ...

It lists the ideal heights in millimeters from the floor level for items like main switch boards, power points, sockets, distribution boards, and more in the outside main door area, living/dining area, kitchen,

Single Phase Distribution Box (DB) Wiring Diagram and

Here, a double pole MCB is used as the Main MCB or Main switch. It has the highest capacity than other MCBs used in the DB. Generally, 63A MCB

How to Wire changeover switch & distribution board (DB) | Step by step

In this video, I''ll show you *how to wire a changeover switch and distribution board (DB)* step by step. and how to wire changeover switch, changeover switch wiring, DB wiring connection,...

*© 2026 ALFA PRO COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved*

Wiring Auto & Manual Changeover / Transfer Switch

Fig-6 shows how to wire a four pole, three phase manual changeover switch to the main distribution board. This is the same connection as we discussed above for

The Ultimate Guide to Circuit Breaker Wiring

Circuit breaker wiring configurations involve organizing main switches, busbars, and branch breakers within a distribution box. Proper setups ensure balanced

Standard Heights for Electrical Installations

The document provides guidelines for mounting heights for electrical switch sockets, light switches, and MCB distribution boards. It specifies the heights for different room types like bedrooms, kitchens,

Distribution Box and Selection Guide: Internal Structure, Components ...

Learn how to choose a distribution box and understand its internal structure, including MCBs, busbars, neutral bars, earth bars, RCDs, RCBOs, SPDs, enclosure ratings, and wiring layout.

Transfer switch wiring and installation layout

Clear transfer switch installation diagram with labeled components and step-by-step layout for connecting generators to home or business electrical systems.

Size determination, installation method and wiring mode of distribution ...

The distribution box is the central hub of the home circuit and the general control of our daily power consumption. It is an indispensable electrical equipment. If there are some potential safety hazards,

Understanding Distribution Boxes:A Comprehensive Guide

A distribution boxes is an essential device that manages the safe and efficient flow of electrical power throughout different areas of a building or

Understanding Distribution Boxes: A Comprehensive

In general, a distribution box is mainly used to distribute electrical power to multiple circuits and provide circuit protection. An electrical panel may

Wiring diagram of electrical distribution box

You can see the wiring diagram of single phase distribution box from main meter to DB and other sub-circuit in the below figure. You have to connect MCB, RCD, and SP or DP as per your

Standard Heights for Electrical Switches | PDF | Ac Power ...

*© 2026 ALFA PRO COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved*

This document provides standard heights for various electrical switch boards and fittings in different rooms of a house. It lists the ideal heights in millimeters from the floor level for items like main switch

Correct Selection Of Main Switch Of Distribution Box

Besides the power distribution box, the bus switch circuit of the upper feeding device may fail once for ten years. In case of the above fault, the operation at the end of

Key Points Of Installation And Collocation Of Distribution Box In ...

The inlets and outlets of the mobile distribution box and switch box shall not be connected with pins Rubber insulated cable must be used for the mouth line and exit line. 8. The distribution box and

Switchboard fundamentals | Switch board | Eaton

Switchboards can be expanded beyond their basic circuit distribution and protection functions to include various other equipment as part of an Integrated Facility System (IFS). For example, IFS systems will

How to Choose a House Distribution Box | CHINT global

A well-chosen distribution box ensures the safety and efficiency of your household electrical system. This article guides you through selecting a distribution box.

Electrical Boxes

Electrical Boxes: Junction Box, Outlet Box, Single Gang, 2 Gang Electrical Boxes vary in size, material, number of gangs, and shape and are designed for specific uses like junctions, outlets, and switch or

## Contact Us

Continue your research online:

Website: https://alfa-pro.co.za
Technical inquiry: https://alfa-pro.co.za/contact.html

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

© 2026 ALFA PRO COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS (Pty) Ltd - All rights reserved