

# How to ground two distribution boxes

## Article Overview

Each distribution box must be grounded individually and connected to a common grounding system using appropriately sized conductors to ensure safety and compliance.

### Grounding Principles

- o Individual Grounding: Each distribution box should have its own ground connection. For metal enclosures, attach a ground wire from a threaded stud or dedicated grounding point on the box to a grounding bus or mounting plate . Plastic boxes do not require grounding of the enclosure itself, but all devices inside still need grounding .
- o Connection to Central Ground: Both boxes should connect to a central grounding point or electrode system. This can be a grounding rod, Ufer ground (concrete-encased electrode), or a dedicated grounding bus bonded to the building's main panel . The ground resistance should be kept below 25 ohms for safety .
- o Wire Sizing: Use the correct wire gauge for grounding. In the US, a 10 AWG wire is standard for distribution boxes, while other markets may require 6 mm<sup>2</sup> . For connections between mounting plates or multiple boxes, larger conductors (e.g., 6 AWG or 13.29 mm<sup>2</sup>) may be needed depending on cable length and fault current requirements .
- o Pigtail Technique: When grounding multiple devices in one box, use a pigtail: a short wire connecting all device grounding screws to the main ground wire. For metal boxes, include a pigtail to the box itself to ensure the enclosure is part of the fault path .
- o Separation of Neutral and Ground: If the boxes are sub-panels, maintain a floating neutral isolated from the enclosure, and connect all equipment grounds to a dedicated grounding bus . This prevents unintended current flow on metal parts and ensures proper operation of overcurrent protection.
- o Testing: After installation, measure the resistance between all grounded components. The total resistance should be very low (typically

Bonding is accomplished when the electrician connects equipment grounding conductors to the equipment grounding terminal bar in

## DIY Home Improvement Forum

So with only one bar I am not sure what to do with my ground wires. Do I need to install a second ground bar?  
I have the ground wire

Is there a better method to connecting 5 ground wires (6 including the wire from the breaker box) together?  
Using short



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Ask This Old House master electrician Heath Eastman explains the purpose of a ground

Dear Mr. Electrician: Tell me how to ground an outlet. NOTE: Some text links below go to applicable products on

Introduction Grounding is utilized within electrical distribution systems to provide an alternative, low-impedance path around the

In this video I will show you how to correctly bond a metal 4 square box. I want to be

Wiring Installation of Single Phase 120V & 240V Circuits & Breakers in Main Service Panel In the USA and

Generally, copper core wire is selected as the ground wire and connected to the PE wiring

Attach a second grounding wire from the mounting plate (B), to the factory central grounding point. The ground

My old house's main panel has two ground wires, one leading to pipes, another to a grounding rod. Because the

Everything looks perfect until the moment of truth arrives. That's why today we'll break down the life-or-death details of

Attach a ground wire from one of the threaded studs (A) at the bottom of the housing, to the mounting plate (B).

Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting out, this comprehensive guide will give you practical insights into proper

Learn how to wire two switches in one box with proper grounding. Stay code-compliant, avoid common mistakes, and get both

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