

How to crimp cables in a distribution box



Article Overview

Crimping cables in a distribution box involves stripping the cable, selecting the correct terminal, and using a proper crimping tool to ensure a secure electrical and mechanical connection.

Tools and Materials Needed

- Cable: Choose the correct size for your application, often specified in AWG or mm².
- Terminals/Connectors: Match the terminal size to the cable. Insulated terminals are easier for beginners, while uninsulated require precise tooling .
- Crimping Tool: Use a ratchet-style crimping tool that matches the terminal type and size. Avoid cheap non-ratchet tools for critical connections .
- Wire Strippers and Cutters: For cleanly stripping insulation and cutting cables to length.
- Heat Shrink Tubing (optional): Provides additional insulation and strain relief.

Step-by-Step Crimping Process

- Prepare the Cable: Cut out any damaged sections and strip back the insulation about 50mm (2 inches) to expose the conductor. Avoid nicking or fraying the wire strands .
- Select the Terminal: Ensure the terminal matches the cable size and type. For high-current or thick cables, use lugs designed for distribution panels .
- Insert the Cable: Fully insert the stripped conductor into the terminal barrel. For insulated terminals, ensure the insulation enters the insulation support portion of the barrel .
- Crimp the Terminal: Position the terminal in the crimping tool's correct cavity. Squ...

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First, the cables are stripped, e.g. with wire strippers. The stripped wire is inserted into the ferrule, contact

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