

How to make a remote-controlled distribution box



Overview

Power Distribution Box: For starters, I built a rack for my truck to throw some "off road" lights on.

Key Takeaways

You can build a remote-controlled distribution box using relays, a smart controller, and proper wiring to safely control multiple electrical loads remotely. Components Needed

- Smart Controller: Devices like the KC868-H8 or KC868-H32L allow remote control via mobile apps, PC, or voice assistants .
- Relays or AC Contactors: To switch high-power loads safely. Choose relays rated for your load voltage and current .
- Power Supply: DC 12V for the controller and relays, plus appropriate AC supply for the loads .
- Distribution Box: A plastic or metal enclosure to house all components safely .
- Wiring and Connectors: For input, output, and control signals. Include fuses or circuit breakers for safety .
- Optional Sensors: Smoke, PIR, or door sensors for automation and alerts .

Step-by-Step Guide

- Plan Your Layout: Arrange relays, controller, and terminal blocks inside the box. Ensure enough space for wiring and ventilation .

- **Mount Components:** Secure the smart controller, relays, and power supply inside the enclosure using screws or mounting brackets .
- **Wire the Inputs and Outputs:** Connect the AC or DC power input to the relays, then wire each relay output to the corresponding load. Include fuses for each channel .
- **Connect the Controller:** Link the relay control inputs to the smart controller outputs. For wireless control, ensure the controller is connected to Wi-Fi or paired with a remote .
- **Add Indicators:** Optional LEDs on each channel help monitor which loads are active .
- **Integrate Sensors (Optional):** Connect sensors to the controller's input ports to trigger automatic actions or alerts via mobile apps .
- **Test the System:** Power on the controller and test each channel using the remote, app, or voice commands. Verify that relays switch correctly and that safety devices function properly .

Safety Considerations

- Always disconnect mains power before wiring.
- Use properly rated relays and fuses for your load.
- Ensure insulation and grounding to prevent electric shock.
- Avoid overloading circuits; calculate total load per channel.

Optional Features

- **Multi-channel control:** Control multiple devices independently.
- **PWM control:** For devices like fans, you can adjust speed via a potentiometer .
- **Automation:** Schedule devices or trigger them via sensors or IFTTT rules .
- **Voice Control:** Integrate with Alexa, Google Home, or other smart assistants . By following these steps and using a smart controller with relays, you can create a safe, flexible, and remotely controllable distribution box suitable for home, workshop, or small industrial applications.

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