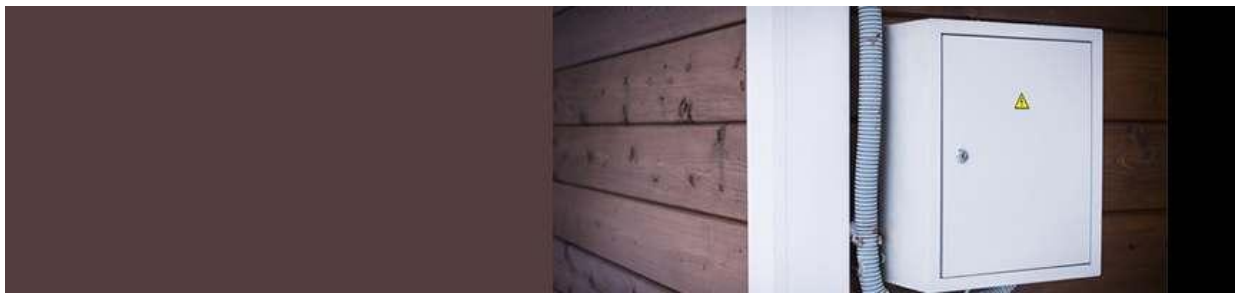


## 5 Key Places To Install Metal Enclosures

**Posted by James** on April 30, 2017.

**Metal enclosures** are an essential piece of equipment that helps to protect you from electrical hazards in your property. Simple yet effective, a metal enclosure surrounds a circuit, switch or display to provide a barrier between yourself and electrical equipment and thus to prevent electric shocks.

Steel enclosures (as well as enclosures made from other materials such as plastic, aluminium and carbon steel) are very common fixtures throughout the home. Some enclosures have viewing panels so that property owners and electrical professionals can read electrical displays or just check at a glance that everything is working smoothly.



**Here are 5 key places to install electrical enclosures.**

### 1. Around telecommunications equipment

Broadband cables and computer servers are just two examples of telecommunications equipment that needs to be protected by electrical enclosures. This equipment is typically very sensitive and so needs a sturdy casing that can keep it safe, whilst also providing adequate ventilation so that it does not overheat. This latter requirement is very important for high powered equipment such as computer servers, as these can slow down and cause disrupted or even totally interrupted data processing if they overheat.

Floor standing enclosures for telecommunications equipment can be located either outdoors or inside a property, and they can be either publicly maintained or private property. The enclosure around telecommunications equipment can also be mounted on a pole or on a wall. Many telecommunications companies make a particular type of high quality enclosure a key part of any installation that they perform.

### 2. Fuse boxes

Fuse boxes are a great example of steel enclosures that are used by ordinary homeowners all the time. The outer metal casing of a fuse box protects the switches on your fuse board and also provides you with an additional layer of protection from the live wires that lie just beneath the fuse board. Fuse boxes are usually situated either within a lockable cupboard or high up on the wall to keep them out of the reach of children.

Many fuse box enclosures have viewing windows. That means that if a switch trips within your home, all that you need to do is to take a look through the viewing window of the enclosure around your fuse box and you will instantly be able to pinpoint where the problem lies.

### **3. Floor standing enclosures for utilities**

Vial pieces of equipment such as the control panels for utilities such as wind farms or industrial freezer systems very often benefit from being enclosed in a specialised metal framework. The metal enclosures used for utilities can have a number of benefits, including reducing condensation around a control panel, ventilation (or other forms of heat management), filtering signals and shielding the control panel from electromagnetic currents that might interfere with their working.

Floor standing enclosures are the most popular choice for utilities, and these cabinets can come in very large sizes to accommodate the larger control panels associated with utilities such as wind farms. Swing doors, shelves and additional ventilation units are all common additions to the enclosure in this context.

### **4. Warehouses**

Condensation and electromagnetic signals are not the only contaminants that electrical equipment needs to be protected from. Electricians also need to be protected from dust, and this is found in abundance in warehouses. Any warehouse or other dusty building or space that uses electrical equipment should thus also have an electrical enclosure installed to protect that equipment. The main way in which dust adversely affects electrical equipment is by impeding electrical conduction. A layer of dust can also have an insulating effect on a circuit and cause it to overheat. Finally, dust often attracts and absorbs moisture, which can lead to short circuiting. Protect your warehouse's electricians from all of these ill effects with one simple step: installing a metal enclosure around them.

### **5. Single sockets in high risk areas**

When we have young children or animals around the house, even a single everyday socket can become a safety hazard. Child proof electrical enclosures are a simple yet very effective way of keeping your children safe from electrical hazards. Though they are the smallest type of enclosure discussed here, these casings for single sockets are widely available and widely used. They can be installed very quickly with just a couple of screws and they can be fitted with child proof locks so that adults can open and use them when necessary. These casings for sockets are also very useful if you have a socket in need of repair (for instance, if a socket has begun to come away from the wall or if it has live wires showing) and want to protect tenants or householders from it until you can get an electrician in to repair it. Purchasing a few sockets sized casings is thus a very good idea as you never know when you might need them.

### **The importance of steel enclosures**

A metal enclosure can be used to protect your electrical kit from all kinds of contaminants, including dust, water and EMC. It can be used to stop equipment from overheating and it can also be used to protect human beings from electrical hazards. Your enclosure can be placed in a warehouse, outside on the street or over a single socket in the home.

The best place to situate your enclosure will depend on the type of equipment that it is designed to go with - an enclosure can be wall mounted, pole mounted or free standing depending on the

context. Viewing windows, swing doors, shelves and child safe locks can all be used to customise your enclosure. Versatile and practical, these casings are indispensable to anyone who cares about practising good health and safety. Which types of electrical equipment in your home and business might benefit from an enclosure? Perform a quick survey today and then make sure to purchase the most relevant type of enclosure for them right away.