

Are junction boxes and couplers the same



Overview

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Key Takeaways

Junction boxes and couplers are not the same; a junction box houses and protects wire connections, while a coupler simply joins two sections of conduit or cable.

Junction Boxes

A junction box is an enclosure used to house electrical connections, splices, and terminations safely. It protects wires from environmental factors like moisture, dust, and physical damage, and prevents accidental electric shocks. Junction boxes also organize wiring, making troubleshooting and system expansion easier. They are commonly made of metal or plastic and are required by electrical codes in modern wiring systems to isolate vulnerable points in a circuit. They can be used in residential, commercial, and industrial applications, and come in various shapes and sizes, such as round pan boxes, octagon boxes, and gang-type boxes.

Couplers

A coupler, in contrast, is a simple connector used to join two pieces of conduit or cable together. It does not house or protect wire connections; its sole purpose is to extend the length of a conduit run or connect different conduit sections. Couplers are typically small, compact, and made of metal or plastic, and they do not provide the safety or organizational features of a junction box.

Key Differences	Feature	Junction Box	Coupler	Function
Houses and protects wire connections	Connects two conduit or cable sections	Safety	Provides insulation and prevents accidental contact	No protective function for wires
Size	Larger, to accommodate splices and terminations	Small, just enough to join conduits	Applications	Residential, commercial, industrial wiring
Extending conduit runs or joining cables	Regulatory Requirement	Required by electrical codes	Not typically regulated	

In summary, junction boxes are critical for safety and organization in electrical systems, while couplers are simple connectors for extending or joining conduits. They serve complementary but distinct roles in wiring installations .

Article Content

What Is a Junction Box? | Angi

A junction box definition includes a protective enclosure where your electrical wires meet, splice, and distribute power

Related Video Reference

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