

NEC Article 110.26 A Cheat Sheet

Working space about electrical equipment, 1000 V nominal or less. Summary for quick reference, not a substitute for the NEC text.

Dimensions

Depth (A)(1): per table below, measured from the equipment front. **Width (A)(2):** 30 in. or equipment width, whichever is greater; doors open 90 degrees. **Height (A)(3):** 6.5 ft or equipment height, whichever is greater; associated equipment may extend no more than 6 in. into the space. **(A)(4):** extra conditions above a suspended ceiling or in a crawl space.

Table 110.26(A)(1) minimum depth

Voltage to ground	Cond. 1	Cond. 2	Cond. 3
0 to 150 V	3 ft	3 ft	3 ft
151 to 600 V	3 ft	3.5 ft	4 ft
601 to 1000 V	3 ft	4 ft	5 ft

Cond. 1: live parts one side, none live or grounded on the other. **Cond. 2:** live parts one side, grounded parts on the other. **Cond. 3:** live parts both sides.

Exceptions

- Dead-front equipment: no back or side space if all connections and adjustable parts are reachable from the front.
- Low voltage (30 V rms, 42 V peak, 60 V dc or less): smaller spaces by special permission.
- Existing buildings: Condition 2 allowed across an aisle when replacing dead-front equipment, with written procedures preventing both sides being open together.
- Existing dwelling units: service equipment or panelboards up to 200 A may have less than 6.5 ft headroom.

Related rules in 110.26

(B) Keep clear, no storage; guard exposed live parts in passageways. **(C)** Entrance and egress; equipment 1200 A+ and over 6 ft wide needs an entrance at each end (24 in. x 6.5 ft), or one if unobstructed exit exists or depth is doubled. **(D)** Illumination in equipment rooms. **(E)** Dedicated space from floor to 6 ft above equipment or the structural ceiling.

Quick answers

There is no 2022 NEC; editions are 2020, 2023 and 2026. Confirm the adopted edition with your AHJ. Read the NEC free (read-only, free account) at nfpa.org/70.

NEC 110.26 Conditions: Minimum Depth

Table 110.26(A)(1), voltage to ground vs condition

Voltage to ground	Condition 1	Condition 2	Condition 3
0 to 150 V	3 ft	3 ft	3 ft
151 to 600 V	3 ft	3.5 ft	4 ft
601 to 1000 V	3 ft	4 ft	5 ft

Condition 1: live parts on one side, nothing live or grounded on the other.

Condition 2: live parts on one side, grounded parts (e.g. concrete wall) on the other.

Condition 3: live parts on both sides, such as two panels facing each other.

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Check your local NEC edition with the AHJ

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