



CHAPTER FOUR

Knox Boxes, Switches, Etc.

Contents:

- Knox Boxes, Locations, and Installation Guide
- Key Switches
- Padlocks
- Fire Department Connection Plugs
- Elevator/Lobby Key Boxes

Purpose:

Proper location of lock boxes and key switches enables emergency responders to gain entry into secured buildings. This reduces or eliminates damage done to property and also reduces response times.

FIRE DEPARTMENT KNOX GUIDE FOR COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

GENERAL NOTES FOR ALL COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

- Knox boxes and other Knox products are available to order online at www.knoxbox.com. When prompted for a Fire Department, enter Northwest Fire Dist. in Tucson, AZ.
- All Knox boxes are required to be installed no more than 5 feet 6 inches above finished grade, as approved.
- Tamper switches are optional, not required, on all Knox boxes.
- A KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 is required at any exterior riser room door located on the latch side of the door. Additional Knox boxes may be required by the Fire Code Official based upon property size, individual circumstances or special hazards.
- A KNOX VAULT SERIES #4400 is to be installed on large, multi-tenant structures when required by the Fire Code Official.
- A KNOX PADLOCK SERIES #3770 is to be installed on exterior manual main gates when required by the Fire Code Official. Padlock #3770 or #3772 is acceptable.
- A KNOX ELEVATOR KEY BOX SERIES #1400 may be required in the lobby of each elevator bank at the lowest level of fire department access.
- KNOX FDC PLUGS with SWIVEL GUARD #3041 may be required for fire department connections.



KNOX BOX LOCATIONS

BIG BOX BUILDINGS

Example: Home Depot, Wal-Mart, etc.

A KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 is required at the main entrance and exterior riser room door. Additional Knox boxes may be required by the Fire Code Official based upon property size, individual circumstances or special hazards.

STRIP MALLS

Example: single story, multi-suite, exterior access

- A KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 is required at exterior riser room doors. Additional Knox boxes may be required by the Fire Code Official based upon property size, individual circumstances or special hazards.
- Each tenant is required to provide and maintain the correct key(s) to their tenant space in the Knox box.

SPECIAL HAZARD OCCUPANCIES

- Any occupancy containing hazardous materials, operations or conditions must contact a Fire Inspector at 520-887-1010 for the required number and placement of Knox boxes.

OTHER APPLICATIONS

- Electric, Automatic Gates – KNOX KEY SWITCH SERIES #3500 is required for all electronically locked gates. Refer to Chapter 6: Automatic Gates for additional information.
- Pedestrian Gates – Primary access points that have pedestrian gates require Fire Department access. Access may be provided using a KNOX KEY SWITCH SERIES #3500 for electric gates or a KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 key box for manual gates. Refer to Chapter 7: Manual Vehicle and Pedestrian Gates for additional information.

Notice!

This information is intended to be used as a guide only. Fire Department access needs and requirements vary from property to property; therefore, it is required that a Fire Inspector inspect and approve all Knox box and key switch locations prior to installation.

BIG BOX RETAIL BUILDINGS



1. A KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 is required at the main entrance and exterior riser room door. Knox boxes shall be installed on the latch side of the door(s).
2. Additional Knox boxes may be required by the Fire Code Official based upon property size, individual circumstances or special hazards.
3. All Knox boxes are required to be installed no more than 5 feet 6 inches above finished grade, as approved.

STRIP MALLS



1. A KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 is required at exterior riser room doors. Knox boxes shall be installed on the latch side of the door(s).
2. Additional Knox boxes may be required at by the Fire Code Official based upon travel distances.
3. Each tenant is required to provide and maintain the correct key(s) to their tenant space in the Knox box.
4. All Knox boxes are required to be installed no more than 5 feet 6 inches above finished grade, as approved.

SMALL COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS



1. When provided with an automatic sprinkler system, a KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 is required at the exterior riser room door. Knox boxes shall be installed on the latch side of the door.
2. In non-sprinklered buildings, a KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 may be required by the Fire Code Official. Knox boxes shall be installed on the latch side of the door(s).
3. All Knox boxes are required to be installed no more than 5 feet 6 inches above finished grade, as approved.

HIGH RISE BUILDINGS



1. A KNOX VAULT SERIES #4400 is required on the latch side of the main entry door.
2. A KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 may be required at the exterior riser room door, depending on location of the room. Knox boxes shall be installed on the latch side of the door(s).
3. A KNOX ELEVATOR/LOBBY BOX SERIES #1400 is required in the lobby of each elevator bank at the lowest level of fire department access.
4. Additional Knox boxes may be required at other entry doors to the building when required by the Fire Code Official.
5. Each commercial tenant is required to provide and maintain the correct key(s) to their tenant space in the Knox box.
6. All Knox boxes are required to be installed no more than 5 feet 6 inches above finished grade, as approved.

KNOX BOX PLACEMENT FOR PEDESTRIAN GATES



1. Primary access gate points with a pedestrian gate require Fire Department access. A KNOX BOX SERIES #3200 OR KNOX KEY SWITCH SERIES 3500 is required.
2. The final location and number of Knox boxes required will be determined by the Fire Code.

