



Price of Computer Room Power Distribution Box

Article Overview

A complete set of power distribution boxes for a small server room typically costs between \$600 and \$2,500, depending on the type, capacity, and features of the PDUs.

Pricing Overview

The cost of power distribution units (PDUs) varies widely based on current rating, number of outlets, monitoring capabilities, and redundancy:

- o Basic metered PDUs: \$300-\$450 each, providing current metering and standard outlets for a single rack .
- o Switched PDUs: \$500-\$700 each, offering per-outlet on/off control and remote power cycling, which is useful for managing servers without physical access .
- o High-density or 3-phase PDUs: \$800-\$1,200 each, designed for racks with high power draw (5kW+), often used in larger or high-performance server rooms . For a small server room with one or two racks, it is recommended to have at least two PDUs per rack for redundancy, connected to separate UPS outputs or circuits . This ensures continuous power even if one PDU fails.

Factors Affecting Total Cost

- o Rack Size and Number of Circuits: A 42U rack with 12-24 circuits is cheaper than one with 48-72 circuits, as more circuits require additional breakers, wiring, and assembly time .
- o Monitoring and Smart Features: PDUs with branch circuit monitoring, touchscreen interfaces, or network communication modules cost more but provide better management and remote monitoring .
- o Redundancy and Architecture: Dual A/B power architecture and hot-swappable PDUs increase reliability but also raise costs .
- o Customization and Quality: Higher-quality components, ventilation, IP rating, and cable entry design can significantly affect the price .

Example Budget for a Small Server Room

- o Two 42U racks: \$500-\$1,200 each depending on brand and features.
- o Four PDUs (two per rack): \$300-\$1,200 each depending on type.
- o Total PDU and rack cost: Approximately \$1,600-\$4,800 for a basic to mid-range setup . For larger data centers or specialized rooms (financial, telecom, or medical), costs can increase substantially due to advanced monitoring, redundant power, and higher-rated PDUs .

Conclusion



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A complete set of computer room power distribution boxes for a small to medium server room generally ranges from \$600 to \$2,500 per rack, depending on the type of PDUs and features. For planning purposes, including redundancy and smart monitoring, budgeting \$1,500-\$5,000 for a two-rack setup is reasonable. Prices can vary further based on customization, shipping, and installation requirements .

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