



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.



Northwest Fire District

5225 West Massingale Road
Tucson, AZ 85743
520-887-1010



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 <https://www.knoxbox.com/knox-rapid-entry-system/property-owners>
- 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 entrance, as approved. Based upon property size, individual circumstances or special hazards, additional Knox boxes may be required by the Fire Code Official.
- 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** is required in the lobby of each elevator bank at the lowest level of fire department access.
- **KNOX FDC PLUGS with SWIVEL GUARD #3041** are required for all fire department connections.

BIG BOX BUILDINGS

Example: Home Depot, Wal-Mart, etc.

- A **KNOX BOX SERIES #3200** is required at **main** and **exterior riser room doors**. Additional Knox boxes may be required at other entry doors to the building when required by the Fire Code Official.



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(Fire Department Knox Box Guide Continued)

STRIP CENTERS

Example: single story, multi-suite exterior access

- A **KNOX BOX SERIES #3200** is required at *main* and *exterior riser room doors*. Additional Knox boxes may be required at other entry doors to the building when required by the Fire Code Official.
- 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 a hazardous operation, condition or hazardous materials must contact a Fire Inspector at 520-887-1010 for the 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 Guide for additional information.
- **Pedestrian Gates** – primary access points that have pedestrian gates that require Fire Department access. Access may be provided using a **KNOX KEY SWITCH #3502** 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.



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BIG BOX RETAIL BUILDING



NOTES:

1. A **KNOX BOX SERIES #3200** is required at *main* and *exterior riser room doors*.
2. Additional Knox boxes may be required at other entry doors to the building when required by the Fire Code Official.
3. All Knox boxes are required to be installed no more than 5 feet 6 inches above finished grade, as approved.



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STRIP CENTERS



NOTES:

1. A **KNOX BOX SERIES #3200** is required at *main* and *exterior riser room doors*.
2. Additional Knox boxes may be required at other entry doors to the building when required by the Fire Code Official.
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.



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SMALL COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS



NOTES:

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



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HIGH RISE BUILDINGS



NOTES:

1. A **KNOX VAULT SERIES #4400** is required to the left 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.
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 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.



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KNOX BOX PLACEMENT FOR PEDESTRIAN GATES



NOTES:

1. Primary access points with a pedestrian gate require Fire Department access. A **KNOX BOX SERIES #3200** or **KNOX KEY SWITCH #3502** is required.
2. The final location and number of Knox boxes required will be determined by the Fire Code Official.