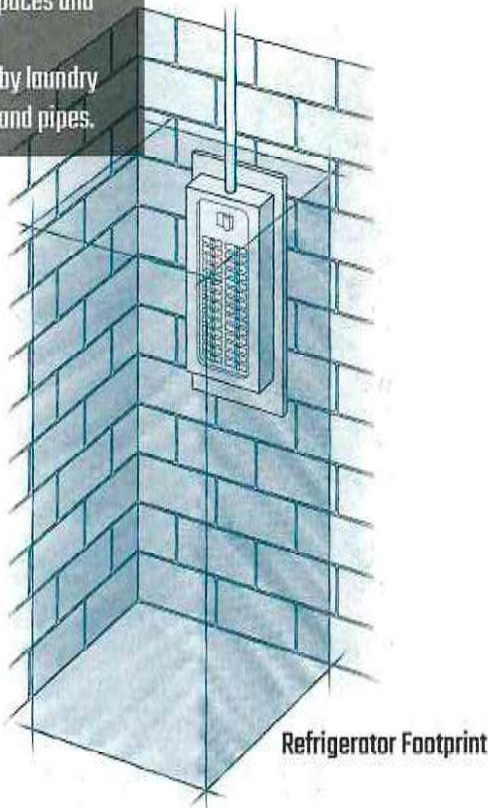




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Common Violations:

1. Panels in closets, crawl spaces and bathrooms.
2. Panels encroached upon by laundry tubs, sump basket, ducting and pipes.



Crowding a service panel

A service panel requires a working clearance that's 30 in. wide, 3 ft. deep and 6 ft. 6 in. high. Here's a good rule of thumb: If you can't park a refrigerator in front of the panel, you don't have enough working space. These clearances are designed to protect the person working on the panel. It's difficult to work safely when your arms are pinned to your sides. Also, the panel needs to be readily accessible, meaning the area should not be used as storage space or require a ladder for access.