Electrical Panel Safety:

The regulation (CFR 1910.303(h)(3)) states that there should be 3 feet of clear space in width and 6.5 feet in height near each and every electrical panel box. A good way to remember is that's the size of a common refrigerator. NOTHING should be in this space. In the case of an emergency the panel box needs to be accessible quickly. A useful way to remind everyone about this is to mark the floor with tape, such as in the picture below.



There shall be no knock outs in the box that are open. Every breaker should be clearly marked.