

Actual cost of solar panels





Overview

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Solar panels generate “free” electricity, but installing a system still costs money. A typical American household needs a 10-kilowatt (kW) system to adequately power their home, which costs \$28,241 in 2025. That price effectively drops to \$19,873 after considering the full federal solar tax credit.

Solar panel costs range from \$16,600 to \$20,500 for the average 6.5 kW system, but prices can vary from as little as \$7,700 for smaller solar systems to upward of \$34,700 for larger systems. To find the most up-to-date solar panel costs in 2025, we compared research from the U.S. Department of

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The average cost of installing an average-size home solar system in 2025 is \$29,360 before federal tax credits and incentives. The federal solar tax credit may reduce the net cost to \$20,552, and local incentives can further lower the cost. You can determine whether solar panels are worth it for.

While the upfront costs of solar panels have dropped by over 70% in the past decade, a comprehensive lifecycle analysis includes several key components: initial purchase and installation (\$15,000-\$25,000 for an average home system), ongoing maintenance (roughly \$300-500 annually), inverter.



As of 2024, the average cost of installing 11 kW of solar panels in Texas was \$29,589, and the national average was \$29,926. It's worth noting that these are the total costs before any federal tax credits (see the .gov eligibility breakdown), utility provider incentives (see our SolarSPARC®). How much does it cost to install solar panels?

That change has made solar more accessible for many more homeowners. However, costs vary among states. Here are the average costs for installing residential solar panels by state according to EnergySage data. \$30,427. \$3.12. \$18,799. \$2.07. \$23,164.

Are solar panels expensive?

No, solar panels in the USA are not considered expensive. On average, a 6.6 kW solar panel system typically costs around \$16,000, not considering government incentives and rebates. Solar panel costs in the US usually range from \$4,500 to \$36,000, or \$1.00-\$3.60 per watt (W).

How much does a home solar system cost?

According to studies by the U.S. Department of Energy, the all-in cost of a home solar panel system is between \$2.74 to \$3.30 per watt. 1,2,12 This figure includes the solar panels, the installation, and other expenses. Using these numbers, an average-sized 8-kilowatt residential solar system would cost between \$21,900 – \$26,400.

How much does a commercial solar system cost?

Commercial solar installations are a great way for companies to lower energy costs. Generally, installing solar panels on businesses costs a bit less per watt because the systems are larger, but the total costs will be higher. In 2025, the average cost for commercial solar panels is just about \$2.00 per watt.

Are solar panels worth it?

The federal solar tax credit may reduce the net cost to \$20,552, and local incentives can further lower the cost. You can determine whether solar panels are worth it for your home by considering various factors, such as local incentives and policies, your electric bill, and how you finance the system.

How much does solar cost per watt?

For reference, the national average cost of solar panels is \$3.03 per watt.



Solar rebates help make solar more affordable by directly lowering the upfront cost of a solar installation. If you have access to solar rebates, consider yourself lucky! They are few and far between these days.



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Energy storage(KWH)

102.4kWh

Nominal voltage(Vdc)

512V

Outdoor All-in-one ESS cabinet



Solar Panel Cost Calculator: Find Your 7-10 Year Breakeven Point

Solar Panel System Calculator This calculator uses real-world data from EnergySage, NREL, and industry reports to estimate costs, savings, and ROI for a solar panel system based on your ...

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[What Do Solar Panels Cost? \(And Are They Worth It?\)](#)

This article breaks down the costs of solar panel installations and provides insights into financing options. It helps you evaluate whether the long-term energy savings and environmental benefits make solar panels a good ...

[Solar Panel Cost Calculator: Find Your 7-10 Year](#)

Solar Panel System Calculator This calculator uses real-world data from EnergySage, NREL, and industry reports to estimate costs, savings,



and ROI for a solar panel system based on your location and energy needs.



[Solar panel costs in 2025: Prices & savings](#)

Solar panel cost breakdown: What are you paying for? Understanding what makes up the cost of a solar system before purchase helps you make smart choices about your home solar project. Solar panels: Brand, ...

Solar Panels: Compare Costs, Reviews & Installers , SolarReviews

The most accurate solar panel cost and savings calculator available Since 2013, our in-house solar experts and engineers have built one of the most accurate solar calculators available. ...



[Solar Panel Costs in 2025 : It's Usually Worth It](#)

Solar Panel Costs in 2025 : It's Usually Worth It
Average Total Cost: \$21,816 - \$26,004
Average Cost per watt: \$3.03
Get solar power system costs based on your location, roof, power usage, and current local offers.



Solar Panel Cost per Square Foot: How Much Will ...

How much do solar panels cost per square foot of living space? Home solar systems typically range from \$6 to \$12 per square foot of living space. The actual cost may vary based on the size and electricity consumption. These ...



The Real Costs and Savings of Switching to Solar

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