



Solar360 Mobile Energy

Best solar panels cost





Overview

To find the best solar panels, we analyzed thousands of models from hundreds of manufacturers featured on the EnergySage Marketplace. We compared key factors like efficiency, power output, performance in warmer temperatures, and warranty coverage. Five brands stood out: Maxeon, VSUN, REC, Qcells.

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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.

Take a look at CNET's expert picks for the best home solar panels. The companies providing quotes may differ from those described in our independent reviews. Deals are selected by the CNET Group commerce team, and may be unrelated to this article. REC and Maxeon offer two of the best solar panels.

We've chosen the best cheap solar panels in 2024 based on efficiency, reputation, pricing and more. MarketWatch Guides may receive compensation from companies that appear on this page. The compensation may impact how, where and in what order products appear, but it does not influence the.

To find the most up-to-date solar panel costs in 2025, we compared research from the U.S. Department of Energy and prices from 54 retailers and manufacturers for popular solar panel brands. This chart refers to the average cost range across all common solar system sizes. Cost will vary depending on.

Today's residential panels typically produce 370-400 watts with efficiency ratings between 19-21%, and the average home needs 15-19 panels to cover electricity usage. Panel prices have dropped 99% since 1977 and 80% in the



last decade alone. Combined with the 30% federal tax credit, solar has never.

Solar panels cost \$3.00 to \$4.50 per watt installed on average, with homeowners spending about \$3.75 per watt before factoring in available solar incentives. A 6- to 10-kW solar panel installation costs \$12,600 to \$31,500 after the 30% federal tax credit. Solar panel prices depend on the size. How much do Cheap solar panels cost?

The cost of cheap solar panels can range from \$2.40 to \$3.74 per watt. Factors such as equipment quality and system size can affect the price of solar panels. MarketWatch Guides may receive compensation from companies that appear on this page.

How much does a solar system cost?

If you just need a few panels for a small do-it-yourself solar project, expect to pay around \$200 to \$350 per panel (between \$0.80 and \$1.40 per watt). Note: The table below doesn't include the cost of a solar storage battery, which can add anywhere from \$7,000 to \$18,000 to your total solar system costs.

What should you look for when buying cheap solar panels?

Here are the four main things to look for when shopping for cheap solar panels: Cost per watt: It's easy to get distracted by the total price of a solar system, but the number you should focus on is the cost per watt.

Are cheap solar panels a good investment?

Installing solar panels on your home is a considerable investment, but you can cut costs by finding an inexpensive installer and selecting cheap solar panels. Silfab, Panasonic and Q Cells are three of our top-rated cheap solar panels for 2024.

Which solar panel should I buy?

Eagle Continental: This panel is my recommendation for the most affordable solar panel for homeowners on a budget. Its 19.8% efficiency rating is good, but not great, but its cost per watt, coming in at \$2.25, is hard to beat. Eagle G4: The Eagle G4 is a big step up from the Continental.

How much does a solar panel installation cost?

Solar panel installation costs vary by the installation company and project



scope, making it challenging to pinpoint exactly how much you'll pay to have a pro install your solar panels. However, the U.S. Department of Energy estimates that installers add around \$2.25 per watt to the cost of a solar panel installation.



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How Much Do Solar Panels Cost? (2025)

Solar panels cost by system size Solar panels cost \$3.00 to \$4.50 per watt installed on average, with homeowners spending about \$3.75 per watt before factoring in available solar incentives. A 6- to 10-kW solar panel ...

[Top solar panels for output, cost-efficiency, warm](#)

...

EnergySage said the average 11 kW solar panel system costs about \$20,552 after federal tax credits. It said the best way to ensure you are getting good value for your solar array is by dividing the panel's output by ...



[Best Solar Panels: Which One Should You Choose?](#)

Choosing the best solar panel can feel overwhelming, but it's easier than you think. A quality solar installer will typically install quality solar panels, so your main focus should be choosing the best solar installer for the ...



[4 Best Solar Panels for Homes of 2025: Expert ...](#)

Blue Raven Solar ranks as the top choice for home solar panels due to its high-efficiency panels, in-house financing options with 18 months of free solar energy, and 25-year workmanship warranty coverage. Monocrystalline ...



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