

# **Cost of home solar system in california**





## Overview

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Average solar panel installation costs range from \$8,005 to \$22,871 in California. How much you pay depends on the size of your system, what incentives you're eligible for, your home's sunlight exposure and other factors. Assuming an upfront purchase, it takes about 5.17 years to break even (when.

You'll pay an average of \$11,435 to install a 5 kilowatt solar panel system in California, before incentives. Act now: The federal investment tax credit (ITC) lowers the total cost of installing solar by 30%, but only until December 31, 2025 —after that, it's gone. Why trust EnergySage?

As subject.

The average solar panel installation cost for 2025 is about \$3.30 per watt. Most homes need between 5 kW and 10 kW of solar power, which translates to about \$16,500-\$33,000 before factoring in incentives like the 30% federal solar tax credit. Solar panels are an investment. But you can bring the.

The most recent solar industry data shows that the average cost of installing solar panels in California is between \$11,000 - \$16,000, depending on the size of your home and energy needs. The average home size in CA is around 2,100 sq ft., making the average solar system cost around \$13,442, but.

Cost Range: Residential solar installations cost \$2.36 to \$3.45 per watt, meaning a typical 5kW system ranges from \$10,016 to \$17,300 before incentives. Savings: Solar systems can reduce electricity bills by \$1,500 annually, potentially saving \$37,500 over 25 years. Payback Period: Many



systems pay.

As of 2025, the average cost to install solar panels in California is around \$2.40 to \$3.25 per watt. For a typical 5kW system, this equates to \$12,500 to \$17,300 before federal tax credits. The costs can vary based on the size of the system: These figures are a general guide, with actual prices. How much do solar panels cost in California?

As of July 2025, the average solar panel system costs \$2.29/W including installation in California. For a 5 kW installation, this comes out to about \$11,435 before incentives, though prices range from \$9,720 to \$13,150. After the federal tax credit, the average price drops by 30%. You'll probably pay even less than what we show here.

Can you get free solar panels in California?

You cannot get free solar panels in California. However, many solar companies in California have options that allow you to install a solar panel system with little to no upfront costs. A solar loan allows you to pay for the system over time. With a solar power purchase agreement (PPA), the solar company installs solar panels at little to no cost.

How much does a solar panel inspection cost in California?

The rates for an inspection in California range from \$140 to \$300 — though this can cost more if you need to remove panels already in place. With so many people buying solar panels in the Golden State, there's usually a bit of a backlog, so this process can delay your installation date a few weeks.

How much do solar panels cost?

You can probably expect to pay between \$7,000 and \$18,000, though some cost \$30,000 or more. Solar panels: Monocrystalline panels are generally considered the “best bang for your buck,” according to Robert Flores, a solar expert at the University of California, Irvine.

How much does a 5kw Solar System cost in California?

After a 30% federal tax credit, California solar panel cost for the same 5kW system decreases to \$8,000 to \$12,100 total. \*Local government and utility company incentives may also be available to lower the cost further.

Are solar panels worth it in California?



Solar panels are often worth it in California if you like the idea of lowering your monthly utility bills, helping the environment and gaining more energy independence. One homeowner with solar panels, David in Palm Desert, put it this way: “Energy prices continue to rise, and we live in an area where the sun shines most of the year.



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### [California Solar, Battery Storage & More. Sunnova](#)

Learn about California solar panels, battery storage, EV charging and additional home energy services from Sunnova. Explore state solar incentives, cost estimates and FAQs. Start your free quote now.

### [How Much do Solar Panels Cost in California?](#)

California is the top state in the US for residential solar. But one question remains for many homeowners - how much does solar actually cost? We've put together this study to give you an idea of how much solar costs in your region of the state.



### **California Solar Incentives, Tax Credits, Rebates, and ...**

For our customers in California, the average cost for a home solar system often ranges from \$25,000 to \$50,000. This means that at a rate of 30%, the average California homeowner could claim a solar tax credit of ...

### [California Solar Panels: Pricing & Incentives for 2024](#)

Cost of Solar in California The average price for a home solar panel system in California is \$17,160 for 6kW or about \$2.86 per watt. Systems will



vary depending on the solar installation ...



### [Solar Panel Cost California: How Much Should You Pay?](#)

The average home in California only needs a 5kW solar system, so you should be able to achieve energy independence by only paying \$11,600 -- and that number comes to under \$10,000 after applying the Federal Tax Credit.

### [How Much Do Solar Panels Cost in California? \(2025\)](#)

California generally has lower costs for solar installation compared to many other states. Nationally, the average cost for solar installation is around \$2.7 to \$3.6 per watt, whereas in California, it is slightly lower, ...



### [California Solar: Costs, Incentives & Savings](#)

California leads the nation in residential solar installations, with electricity rates at 31.86 cents per kWh--nearly double the national average. California homeowners are turning to solar installation to take control of rising energy costs. Whether ...



### [Solar Panels for Home in 2025 . Solar](#)

How much are solar panels for home? Home solar systems have an outdated reputation for being an expensive luxury item that only wealthy homeowners can afford. However, the cost of solar has plummeted in the last several decades ...



### **Solar Panel Cost Calculator**

However, that doesn't mean you won't save money in the long run by going solar. Lifetime energy cost If you select cash, this is essentially the estimated cost of your solar system and any flat fees your system can't offset. If you select a 20 ...

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

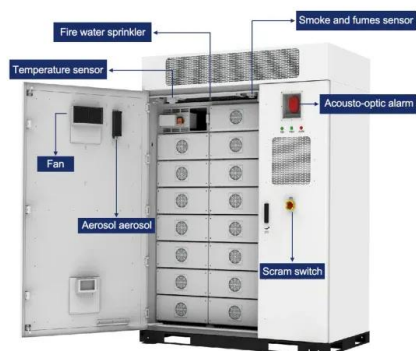
Solar Panel Costs in 2025 : It's Usually Worth It  
Average Total Cost: \$21,816 - \$26,004 Average  
Cost per watt: \$3.03 Get solar power system  
costs based on your location, roof, power usage,  
and current local offers.



### [How Much Do Solar Panels Cost in California? \(2025\)](#)

In this article, we'll explore the cost of solar panels in California, the factors that influence these costs, and how homeowners can make the most out of their investment. Current Average Costs of Solar Panels in California As ...





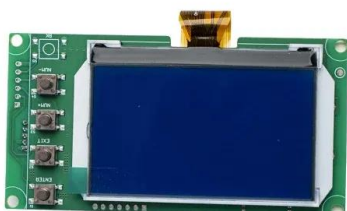
### California Solar Panel Cost: 2025 Prices and Savings ...

As of August 2025, the average solar panel system costs \$2.29/W including installation in California. For a 5 kW installation, this comes out to about \$11,435 before incentives, though prices range from \$9,720 to \$13,150.



### Sacramento, CA Solar: 2025 Costs, Incentives

Sacramento's abundant sunshine and rising electricity costs make solar panels an excellent investment for local homeowners. Federal tax credits can save you 30% on installation costs while California offers property tax exemptions for ...



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