Solar360 Mobile Energy

Cost of owning 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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Solar panels cost about $21,816 on average when purchased with cash or $26,004 when purchased with a loan for a 7.2 kW system. While that price tag seems steep, the electricity bill savings you get from solar panels make them a worthwhile investment for most Americans. Our team of solar experts.

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.

On average, solar-panel systems run around $25,000, but the actual cost depends on many factors—where you live and your home's sun exposure chief among them. The slope of your roof, and whether you qualify for certain tax rebates will play a part as well. Still, with growing interest in reducing. How much does a home solar system cost?

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How much do solar panels cost?

The price of solar panels changes depending on where you live, but the average for installation is just under $29,000 or $2.75 per watt. On the high end, we talked to a solar customer in Hawaii who spent $100,000 going solar. Dion in Nevada said their 10-kW system cost about $20,000, which is about the national average price for a 7-kW system.

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.

How much does it cost to install and manage solar panels?

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Why do solar panels cost so much?

How much sun exposure your roof gets is one of the biggest factors in solar panel costs. Roofs that have more hours of exposed sunlight—throughout the day and across the year—will need fewer panels and therefore have a lower cost. Roofs with less exposure will see the opposite effect.

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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What is the difference between buying and leasing a solar panel system? The main difference between buying and leasing a solar system is who owns the system. When you buy solar panels, whether it be with cash or through a solar ...

[A Comprehensive Guide to Evaluating the Total Cost ...](#)

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