

# **Residential solar panel systems cost**





## 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. 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 solar installation cost?

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How much does a 12 kW solar panel cost?

The average cost of a 12 kW solar panel installation on EnergySage is \$20,754 after the federal tax credit. You'll probably save anywhere from \$34,000-\$120,000 over 25 years by going solar. Solar panels are just 12% of the total cost of a solar panel installation.



How much does solar panel maintenance cost?

Solar panel maintenance is relatively straightforward, usually requiring annual cleaning and inspection, which costs around \$150-300 per visit. Many homeowners choose to clean their panels themselves, using just water and a soft brush, though professional cleaning is recommended for steep roofs or hard-to-reach installations.

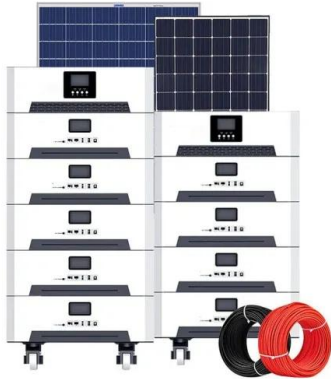
How much does solar cost per watt?

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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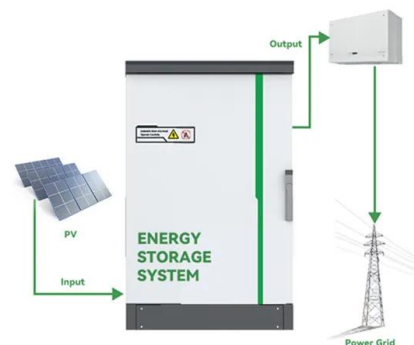


### Solar Panel Costs in 2025

The average cost of a residential solar panel system ranges from \$18,000 to \$43,000, depending on the system size, location, and available incentives. Typically, a 6-8 kW system--suitable for an average 2,000-square-foot ...

### [Homeowner's Guide to Going Solar , Department of ...](#)

In general, a purchased solar system can be installed at a lower total cost than system installed using a solar loan, lease, or power purchase agreement (PPA). If you prefer to buy your solar energy system, solar loans can lower the up-front ...



### [Solar Panel Cost 2025: Complete Installation Price ...](#)

Solar panel costs have reached historic lows in 2025, making home solar more affordable than ever before. With the average residential solar system costing between \$20,000 and \$30,000 before incentives, and the ...

### [How much do solar panels cost? , Choose Energy](#)

The average cost of home solar panels is approximately \$31,558 before tax credits, based on data from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). A typical residential solar



system is 8.6 kilowatts (kW), ...



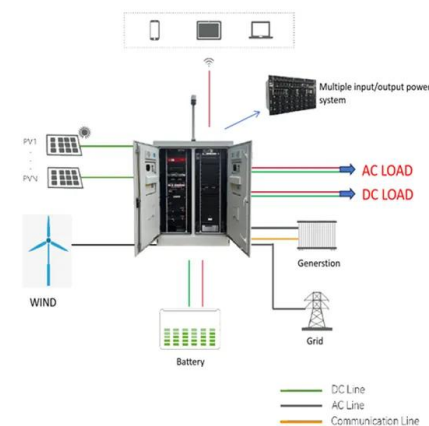
### [Solar Panel Installation Costs in 2024 , Solar](#)

Here's an exciting number: The cost of residential solar panel systems dropped a remarkable 64 percent from 2010-2020, according to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). A solar panel system is comprised of many pieces. ...



### [Solar Panel Prices in 2025: Average Cost by kWh. ...](#)

Solar panel installation costs a national average of \$18,180 for a 6kW solar panel system for a 1,500 square ft. home. The price per watt for solar panels can range from \$2.50 to \$3.50 and largely depends on the home's ...



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