

A-Core Container

The cost price of solar modules



Overview

As of 2025, the average cost of residential solar panels in the U.S. is between \$15,000 and \$25,000 before incentives. This typically translates to about \$2.50 to \$3.50 per watt of installed capacity (more on price per watt below).

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The cost of solar panels depends mainly on system size, equipment quality, installation complexity, location and available incentives. Financing solar panels might be a good idea if your loan payments are less than your power bill. A small residential solar panel system costs around \$14,210 before.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) and its national laboratory partners analyze cost data for U.S. solar photovoltaic (PV) systems to develop cost benchmarks. These benchmarks help measure progress toward goals for reducing solar electricity costs.

The cost of installing solar is far less intimidating when you understand the various components, how savings are generated, and different ways to lower your cash outlay through financing. In this article, we'll explore: Do solar panels really save you money?

As always, our goal is to empower you.

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

Solar panels cost \$1,200 per panel, depending on the type of panel, home size, energy usage, and labor. Clicking "Get Your Estimate" submits your data to All Star Pros, which will process your data in accordance with the All Star Pros Privacy Policy. Compare Companies Average Cost Key Factors Cost.

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

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. 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 home solar system cost?

In 2025, we surveyed 1,000 home solar customers across the U.S. to understand their experience shopping for and installing solar panel systems. Most homeowners said they paid around \$16,129 for a solar panel system, with an average of 14 solar panels installed.

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How much does a solar system cost per watt?

As of publishing, the average cost per watt is \$2.84. Most solar companies set the price according to the solar system's wattage. A solar installation's "cost per watt" is a little like the "price per square foot" when you buy a house. It helps compare the value of solar energy systems in different sizes.

What is the relative cost of solar energy?

Another measure of the relative cost of solar energy is its price per kilowatt-hour (kWh). Whereas the price per watt considers the solar system's size, the price per kWh shows the price of the solar system per unit of energy it produces over a given period of time. $\text{Net cost of the system} / \text{lifetime output} = \text{cost per kilowatt hour}$.

How much does a solar panel upgrade cost?

Depending on the project, an electrical panel upgrade for solar could cost between \$2,000 and \$3,000. If your solar system uses a string inverter, it may need to be replaced. String inverters generally last between 10 and 12 years, while solar panels last for 25 years or more. Getting a new string inverter could cost about \$1,500.

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