



Normal lifespan of solar photovoltaic panels

How long do solar panels last?

Racking systems for solar panels are also separate from solar panel warranties. These may incur damage from weather elements. Solar inverters generally last 10 to 15 years. This shortened lifespan is due to how hard inverters continually work to convert energy from the solar panels into usable electricity for your home.

How long does a solar inverter last?

Most people focus on the panels, but the inverter--the device that turns solar electricity into usable power for your home--usually doesn't last as long. Standard string inverters typically last about 10 to 15 years, which means you'll probably need to replace them at least once during your panel system's lifetime.

Do solar panels still work after 25 years?

Studies such as those from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) show that modern solar panels lose about 0.5% of their output per year on average. That means after 25 years, the panels are still working, just not quite as powerfully as when they were new.

How long do Tier 1 solar panels last?

Industry standards confirm that modern Tier-1 solar panels are built to last. While the common performance warranty guarantees strong energy output for 25 to 30 years, this is often just the beginning of a panel's life.

How long does a solar panel warranty last?

Most panel warranties are split into two parts: a performance guarantee, and a product or workmanship guarantee. The performance warranty promises your panels will still produce at a certain level after 25 years, but the product warranty is often much shorter--typically 10 to 12 years.

How often do solar panels degrade?

On average, solar panels degrade at a rate of .5-1% each year according to NREL. The solar panel manufacturer's warranty backs this up, guaranteeing 90% production in the first ten years and 80% by year 25 or 30. However, a study conducted by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) shows a more accurate picture of solar panel degradation.

Modern panels degrade at an average of just 0.5-0.8% per year, sometimes even less. Most continue producing clean energy well beyond their 25-30-year warranties. Whether it's a car, ...

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