



Solar panels account for the largest portion of the cost

How much does a home solar system cost?

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 cost between \$21,900 - \$26,400.

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.

Why do solar panels cost so much?

Raw materials like silicon and labor costs contribute significantly to solar panel expenses. Advanced technology and skilled labor increase production costs. Soft costs, including labor and permitting, constitute a significant portion of total expenses. Market conditions, such as global demand and supply chain disruptions, impact pricing.

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

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What are soft costs & why do solar panels cost so much?

Soft costs play a significant role in the overall expense of solar panel installations, accounting for a substantial portion of the total cost. Expenses such as labor, permitting, and marketing contribute to these soft costs, adding to the financial burden of going solar.

How much does a solar system save on energy costs?

On average, homeowners with a complete solar system save \$41,000 to \$62,000 on total avoided energy costs over 25 years. It all depends on what your local utility charges for electricity, according to Robert Flores, a solar expert at The University of California, Irvine's Clean Energy Institute.



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