

# Solar power cost per watt





## Overview

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How much does solar cost per watt?

According to the Solar Energy Industries Association, the average price per watt for residential solar projects was \$3.27 in the first half of 2023. That is up slightly from a low of \$2.92 before the pandemic, but down over 50% from the price of \$6.65 per watt in 2010. Knowing the price per watt of solar is good for two things.

What is the cost per watt?

By analyzing the cost per watt, homeowners and businesses can make informed decisions that align with their financial goals and energy needs. To begin with, the cost per watt is a fundamental metric that reflects the price of solar panels divided by their total output capacity in watts.

How much do solar panels cost?

Solar panels themselves represent only 12-18% of total system cost, typically \$0.30-\$0.50 per watt. Premium monocrystalline panels offer 20-22% efficiency but cost more than standard panels with 18-20% efficiency. Panel type significantly impacts both cost and performance:.

Why do solar panels cost more than a Watt?

For instance, commercial installations or large residential systems can negotiate better pricing due to the volume of panels purchased. Conversely, smaller installations may face higher costs per watt because the fixed costs associated with installation, such as labor and permitting, are spread over fewer panels.



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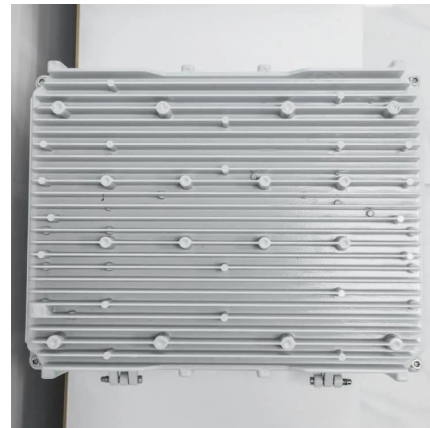
A solar installation's "cost per watt" is a little like the "price per square foot" when you buy a house. It helps compare the value of solar energy systems in different sizes.

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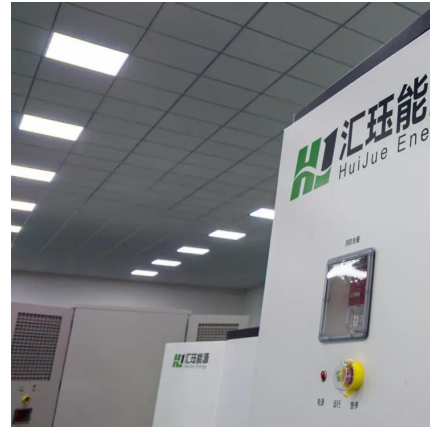
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