



Battery monitoring system 120 kWh

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I spent over 2 months testing the SmartShunt alongside 3 of the best battery monitors for RVs and 12V-48V solar batteries. I connected the SmartShunt to a 12V battery bank, performed charging and discharging cycles, familiarized myself with its mobile app, and tested its Bluetooth range.

After all that, the SmartShunt ended up being my favorite battery monitor. It works with virtually every type of RV and solar battery, has built-in Bluetooth for remote monitoring, and is one of the most customizable and accurate battery monitors I've used. Plus there's a water-resistant version with an IP65 rating for wet or marine environments.

If you'd like to know how the SmartShunt compares to other top battery monitors such as the Victron BMV-712 Smart and the Renogy 500A Battery Monitor check out my full review of the best battery monitors, or watch the following video I made of my testing.

The SmartShunt is by far the easiest battery monitor to install. It doesn't have a screen, so all you have to do is mount the shunt, which can be done in 2 ways:

The SmartShunt powers up automatically once you've connected everything properly. To set it up for your system, you download the free VictronConnect mobile app and open it up on your phone. The SmartShunt has Bluetooth built-in, so you interface with it and adjust settings entirely through the app.

Locate the SmartShunt in the app's list of devices and connect to it following the instructions. Once you've connected, you'll see the SmartShunt's Status screen that displays important specs such as battery percentage, battery voltage, current, and wattage.

To complete setup, you need to input your battery settings. Tap the gear icon in the top right corner to go to the settings menu and tap on Battery. Here you'll see a lot of battery settings, most of which make no sense the first time you see them.

Of course, like any battery monitor, the SmartShunt has the basic settings, like battery capacity and state of charge. But then there are plenty more, things like Peukert exponent and charge efficiency factor, that you can tweak to make the monitor even more accurate for your system.

Fortunately, Victron gives us a detailed product manual that has guidance on each setting based on battery type. Also, a quick search for 'victron smartshunt' will yield plenty of excellent videos that will help you dial in the right settings for your battery.

Once you connect to the SmartShunt, which must be done every time you open the app, you'll be



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taken to the SmartShunt's Status screen. It shows you a lot of information at a glance, such as voltage, current, state of charge, wattage, and estimated time remaining. I spend most of my time on this screen.

If you want to dig in further, there are history and trends tabs that show you historical information about your system, such as total amp hours charged and discharged. The trends reports will delight the battery nerds out there: they show things like voltage, current, and state of charge over time.

And then there's the settings menu, which includes the aforementioned battery settings and settings for some extra features. I'll cover the extra features a little later on, but know that this is where you go in the app to set those up.

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