



# Solar installation services near me

Solar installation services near me

We'll match you with a Select Partner in your area who will work with you to design, customize, and install the right energy solution for your home or business.

Choose a Select Partner in your area -- or let us pair you with one who is licensed in your area, hand-selected, and thoroughly-trained to provide a superior customer experience.\*

Solar energy has witnessed massive growth and tech advancement in the last 10 years. Eco-friendly fixes have made the idea of installing solar panels more and more popular. The falling cost of installation and the rising value of government incentives have also contributed to the appeal of solar systems in cities around the world.

For families thinking of installing solar now, there are multiple options to choose from. The differences between providers can be complicated to discern. Often the best decision for your home will be determined by calling the best solar companies in your area.

If this is all new to you, then the important thing is to read up on the services that solar installers provide. According to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, "Solar photovoltaic (PV) installers assemble, set up, and maintain rooftop or other systems that convert sunlight into energy...Most solar panel installations are done outdoors, but PV installers sometimes work in attics and crawl spaces to connect panels to the electrical grid."

There may be many service providers in your area, with a pretty solid reputation. So, it'll be incumbent upon you to ask direct questions about energy usage, the layout of the roof or garden, and the short-term and long-term costs. There are five steps to finding the best solar panels provider near you.

According to the Center for Sustainable Energy, "The cost of a solar electric system is measured in dollars per watt. The average cost for a residential system is currently \$3 to \$5 per watt. That means the average 5-kW residential system will cost \$15,000 to \$25,000, prior to tax credits or incentives."

Browse sites like EcoWatch that explain solar financing and net metering options, which can be connected to the utility company in your area. Of course, a great installer should be able to share these tips and tricks, but it is best to come armed with education before expecting a vendor to disclose this kind of info. These incentive programs can affect how you finance the installation.

You can pay in cash, in installments, take out a loan or lease the solar panels. Each requires a different financial investment and has different tax consequences. Decide which method is best for you, because you'll need to explain your preferences to the installer to confirm that they'll agree to your terms. Not every installer accepts all payment methods. After becoming well versed in the costs and credits, then it is time to shop around for installers with competitive prices and top notch services.



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If the initial quotes come back too high, Pearce advises a touch of DIY spirit. He says you can cut the cost of a solar energy system by more than half if you're willing to do some of the work on your own. He and Lonny Grafman, an Instructor of Environmental Resources Engineering and Technology at Humboldt State University, wrote a free e-book entitled *To Catch the Sun* that offers all the necessary steps to get started.

You might be thinking, "Can I really install my own solar panels?" The short answer is "yes." The long answer is "it depends." There are many pros and cons to setting up a DIY system. While the pros usually center on short-term savings, the cons revolve around long-term limitations. Most DIY solar panels can not be hooked up to the traditional electrical grid and, thus, aren't eligible for some of the tax breaks and energy credits available for certified installations.

Online review sites, like Yelp! and Solar Reviews, can help you find providers in your zip code and neighborhood. Once you narrow down a few, be sure to use those same sites to read a healthy number of customer reviews. Gain insight into each company's customer service quality and credibility. These buying stories are important. They provide social proof and highlight red flags.

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