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Installing solar panels can slash your electric bills and boost your home value, but how much value you get depends on the size and number of panels you install. Most residential solar panels have 60 cells and measure about 65 inches by 39 inches, or 5.5 feet by 3.25 feet. However, the exact dimensions vary by brand.

The best solar providers will help you pick the right panels that support your energy needs and work with your roof, but homeowners should understand how a panel's size and weight impact installation. Below, we explain the average solar panel size and weight, including factors that could impact your panels' dimensions. For more general solar information, read our guide to the basics of solar panels.

Each panel contains a few dozen solar cells that measure roughly 6 inches by 6 inches. Most residential solar panels contain about 60 cells in a 6-by-10 grid configuration. The frame and space between cells add a few extra inches, making the average residential panel about 65 inches by 39 inches, or 17.5 square feet.

Keep in mind that these dimensions are neither exact nor universal. For instance, 60-cell SunPower panels are 61.3 inches by 41.2 inches. You can also opt for larger panels with 72 cells in a 6-by-12 grid--though these are more common in commercial solar installations. In that case, your panels will be closer to 78 inches by 39 inches or 6.5 feet by 3.25 feet.

On average, solar panels weigh about 42 pounds, with some falling between 40 and 60 pounds. To give you an idea, if you were to install a solar system with 21 panels, your total solar array might weigh about 882 pounds (21 panels x 42 pounds). It's worth noting that this estimate doesn't include the additional weight from framing or mounting equipment. The exact weight of your system will depend on the materials, mounting system, and panel configuration. This information can help you plan and prepare for the installation process.

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