

SolarTech Power Solutions

Solar photovoltaic panels for home electricity



Overview

What is a solar PV residential system?

These systems typically include solar panels, an inverter to convert direct current (DC) to alternating current (AC), and sometimes a battery for energy storage. The solar PV residential systems can power your home directly, store energy for later, or send excess energy back to the grid.

What is a residential solar system?

Residential solar systems utilize photovoltaic (PV) panels to convert sunlight into electricity, powering your home with renewable energy. These systems typically include solar panels, an inverter to convert direct current (DC) to alternating current (AC), and sometimes a battery for energy storage.

How do solar panels work?

When sunlight hits the panels, it creates an electric current that is first used to power electrical systems in your home. If your panels are producing more electricity than your home is using, the excess is stored in a battery and/or pushed onto the local energy grid to power your neighbors' homes.

How do solar panels produce electricity?

Solar panels produce electricity through a process called the photovoltaic effect. Most home solar panels are made of silicon, a semiconductor material. When sunlight hits the panel, the electrons in the silicon get excited and create an electrical current that flows to the system's solar inverter.

Can a solar panel be used as AC?

Most importantly, because solar panels generate electricity as direct current (DC), the power must travel through an inverter system, like an Enphase IQ Microinverter, before it can be used in your home or sent to the grid as alternating current (AC). Do you need a solar battery?

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What are photovoltaic (PV) solar panels used for?

First, this guide is intended for photovoltaic (PV) solar panel installations, a technology separate from thermal solar collectors, which are commonly used for home water heating. Within the realm of electricity-generating photovoltaics (PV), there are several types of solar panels that can be used for various purposes.

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Solar Photovoltaic Technology Basics , NREL

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