



Photovoltaic panel specifications and prices

How much does a CPV solar system cost?

Concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) panels are \$0.80 to \$1.10 per watt. While not as well-known as other types of panels, CPV panels are highly efficient and may grow in popularity. A 6 kW solar system would cost \$4,800 to \$6,600. A single solar cell costs about \$0.30 and most panels use 60 or 72 cells. The more cells in a panel, the higher the cost.

Where did photovoltaic cost data come from?

Photovoltaic cost data between 1975 and 2003 has been taken from Nemet (2009), between 2004 and 2009 from Farmer & Lafond (2016), and since 2010 from IRENA. Prices from Nemet (2009) and Farmer & Lafond (2016) have been converted to 2024 US\$ using the US GDP deflator, to account for the effects of inflation.

What are photovoltaic panels & how do they work?

They are designed for builders constructing single family homes with pitched roofs, which offer adequate access to the attic after construction. It is assumed that aluminum framed photovoltaic (PV) panels mounted on a "post" and rail mounting system, the most common in the industry today, will be installed by the homeowner.

How much weight does a PV system add to a roof?

A conventional PV system that includes racking materials will add approximately 6 pounds per square foot of dead load to the roof or structure, though actual weights can vary for different types of systems. Wind will add live loads; the magnitude of live loads will depend on the geographic region and the final PV system.

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