

A-Core Container

How much does it cost to get solar panels on rural roofs



Overview

How much does solar cost per square foot in 2025?

In this guide, we'll break down average solar costs per square foot in 2025, show how they compare by home size, explain why this metric has limits, and give you expert tips to reduce your price. Average U.S. solar cost per square foot in 2025: \$6 – \$12 after the 30% federal tax credit.

How much does a home solar system cost?

According to studies by the U.S. Department of Energy, the all-in cost of a home solar panel system is between \$2.74 to \$3.30 per watt. 1,2,12 This figure includes the solar panels, the installation, and other expenses. Using these numbers, an average-sized 8-kilowatt residential solar system would cost between \$21,900 – \$26,400.

How much does a solar panel cost?

Solar panel installation cost averages \$27,178 for a standard home, with most homeowners spending between \$18,356 and \$36,405. Prices vary based on system size, panel type, and installation complexity. Expect to pay \$2.50 to \$3.50 per watt installed, with larger systems offering better value per watt.

How much does it cost to install and manage solar panels?

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Why are solar panels so expensive?

Since 2010, the cost to install solar panels on a home has fallen by roughly 50%. Costs rose slightly from 2020-2023 largely due to supply chain tangles from the pandemic, and then fell again in 2024. Prices have ticked upward slightly in 2025 due to tariffs and a rush for solar before the 30% consumer solar tax credit expires on December 31, 2025.

How much does solar cost in California?

Divide annual kWh by ~1,200 (typical kWh/year per kW of solar in much of California). In California, expect \$2.75 – \$3.50 per watt before incentives (solar panel cost in California). This gives your solar cost per square foot. Estimate your system size, price before and after incentives, and cost per square foot.

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Contact Us

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