



# Solar panel installation labor costs

How much does solar installation cost?

Installation labor accounts for around 5.5% of the total cost of a residential solar project, according to a 2022 report from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. That amounts to \$1,375 for a \$25,000 solar project.

Why do solar panels cost so much?

The more solar panels you install, the higher the installation cost because the process takes more time and labor. Depending on your location, the sales tax or hourly labor wage may be greater, increasing the total solar cost. Installation is one of the many factors that determine the overall price.

How much does a solar project cost?

For example, if you receive a solar quote for \$25,000, you can expect labor to make up around \$1,375 of the all-in cost. (Check out our solar calculator to estimate the cost of your project.)

How much does a solar system cost per watt?

Ultimately many factors figure into the price per watt of a solar system, but the average cost is typically as low as \$2.75 per watt. This price will vary if a project requires special adders like ground mounting, a main panel upgrade, an EV charger, etc.

How much does a solar panel cost?

Less efficient polycrystalline panels are typically cheaper at \$0.75 per watt, putting the price of a 400-watt panel at \$300. The cost of a solar panel also depends on how you buy it. If you purchase through a full-service installer, you will likely get a lower price for each panel than buying them individually from a retail store.

What factors affect the cost of solar panel installation?

Installation is one of the many factors that determine the overall price. The factors influencing the average cost of solar panel installation include hard and soft costs. Hard costs include the physical equipment like racking, panels, inverters and batteries.

Solar panels make up about a third of the cost of a solar panel system and come in three types, each with its own price tag and features. On average, solar panels cost \$0.70 to \$1.50 per watt. With labor and other factors, solar panel ...

NREL's PV cost benchmarking work uses a bottom-up approach. First, analysts create a set of steps required for system installation. Next, they calculate the hardware, equipment, direct labor, and indirect labor costs associated with ...

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