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How much does a square meter of solar panels on a roof cost in the United States





Overview

How much does solar cost per square foot?

Average U.S. solar cost per square foot in 2025: \$6 – \$12 after the 30% federal tax credit. Cost per square foot varies by system size, energy use, location, and panel efficiency. The most accurate pricing metric is still cost per watt, but per-sq-ft estimates are helpful for ballpark figures.

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 30m² solar PV system cost?

A residential property in an urban region of South Africa installs a 30m² solar PV system featuring mid-range monocrystalline panels. The solar panel cost per square meter, including all labor and system components, is approximately \$6,000.

Are solar installations cheap?

Solar installations aren't cheap, but the actual equipment is a relatively small part of the total cost. It's only 35% of your total installation cost, according to the US Department of Energy. Soft costs, also known as the hidden costs of installing solar, are nonhardware costs, and they make up 65% of your total solar costs, according to the DOE.



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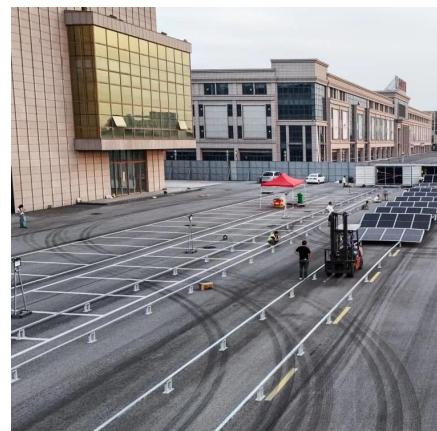
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The following table shows the prices per solar panel, per Wp and per kWh, the number of square meters that these panels occupy, and including installation, materials.



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