

Measure the working current of solar panels





Overview

Some digital clamp meters only measure AC current, but for testing solar panels you will need one that measures both AC and DC current, such as the TIS 438, TIS E247, TIS E257 or HT9025 supplied by Test Instrument Solutions, the latter also has a data logging function to enable you to store results. How do I measure PV current?

Note: You can more easily measure PV current by using a clamp meter, which I discuss below in method #2. That's right — you can use a multimeter to measure how much current your solar panel is outputting. However, to do so your solar panel needs to be connected to your solar system.

How do you measure a solar panel current?

Remove the towel and read the current on your multimeter. Adjust the tilt angle of your solar panel until you find the max current reading and compare this number to the short circuit current (Isc) listed on the back of your panel. The short circuit current you're measuring should be close to the one listed on the back of the panel.

How to test solar panels with a multimeter?

Using a Multimeter to Test Solar Panels You can measure Volts and Amps with a special tool called a multimeter. There are 2 styles of multimeters in the following. When you use the switched multimeter. Please select the appropriate function on your multimeter. Most multimeters have functions for measuring several different quantities.

How does a solar panel meter work?

As you can in the photo, you can also use a power meter to measure solar panel amps (1.86A) and voltage (13.14V). The meter also measures total watt hours, a useful metric for seeing how much energy your solar panel generates in a day. However, the meter will automatically turn off once the solar panel stops producing power.



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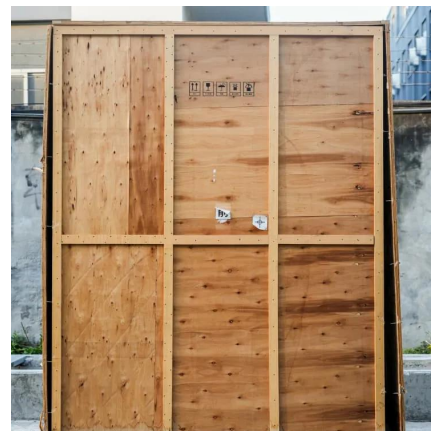
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The first two measurements use the solar panel on its own. When disconnecting the solar panel, regulator and battery, take care to disconnect the panel from the regulator first, and then



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