

North American rooftop photovoltaic panel prices





Overview

The expense associated with rooftop solar photovoltaic panels varies significantly but typically averages between 12,000 and 25,000 USD before incentives, impacted by 1. the size of the installation, 2. regional labor costs, 3. the type of panels selected, and 4. available tax rebates or incentives. Which solar panel is best for a residential roof?

Their most expensive (and most popular for residential use) is the sleek MSE PERC 60 BLACK. It looks nice, performs well, and can work with both residential and commercial roofs. The MSE PERC 60 looks more like the original solar panel technology, with visible cells. It works well for both residential and commercial use.

What is the ideal roof orientation for solar panels?

The ideal roof for solar is one facing south with enough slope to properly tilt the panels and enough room for them. And if you're also replacing your roof before the solar system installation, consider steel standing seam.

Is installing solar panels on my roof a good idea?

For existing roofs, consider solar panel installation on: Pro Tip: You can "cheat" 5-10 years on this if you're willing to replace your solar equipment sooner than 10-20 years.

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.

How much does it cost to remove and reinstall roof panels?

It cost \$5,000 to remove and reinstall the panels after the roof was replaced.



“If I had known the roof was in such bad shape, I would've replaced the roof before installing the panels,” Devin told us.



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[The Cost of Solar Panels in America: A Homeowner's Guide \(2025\)](#)

In 2025, the average cost for a professionally installed rooftop solar system in America is typically between \$15,000 and \$30,000 before any tax credits or incentives are applied (SEIA, 2025).

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