



FREQUENTLY ASKED SOLAR QUESTIONS

How much am I paying for electricity?

Your electric bill should display a figure for how many "kilowatt hours" you've used in the billing period. This is often abbreviated as "kWh". Dividing the dollar amount of your electricity bill by the number of kWh will tell you what you pay per kWh.

Can I get solar for free?

Although you will see advertisements implying "free solar", there is a cost associated with the installation. It is, however, possible to finance solar without any upfront cost.

Are there incentives/rebates available for solar?

There is a federal income tax credit available when purchasing a solar system. Other government agencies and utility companies may have additional incentives available.

Are there commercial or agricultural incentives?

Yes, there are additional incentives available to commercial and agricultural entities considering solar energy.

How does solar impact home value?

Studies show an increase in home value after solar is installed on a home. The consensus among studies is around a 4% average increase in value on a national scale. Many states, including Iowa, offer a property tax exemption related to this.

What if there is shade at my home?

There is technology available to maximize performance in certain shaded circumstances. This is a factor we look for and cover in our consultation with you.

What is net metering?

Your utility's net metering policy describes how they handle the excess energy your system sends back to their grid. Our Consultants are experts in these utility policies.

How many solar panels do I need?

There are a few factors to consider. Most importantly is to look at how much electricity you typically use over a 12 month period. Your utility company's policies impact this as well. We customize solar solutions for each individual client.

How much do solar panels cost?

As with the previous question; this is dependent on what we learn about your historical energy usage. For this reason, providing us with your electric bill is an important step when we're designing your solar system.

What is the life expectancy of solar panels?

All of the panels we offer carry a 25 year manufacturer warranty. Just like any other product with a warranty, they are designed to be operational past their warranty period.

Can solar panels be recycled?

Yes, there are emerging programs and technologies that allow for panels to be recycled.

Does my system need maintenance?

There is no ongoing maintenance needed for a residential solar system.

Are there warranties on a solar system?

The products we install carry warranties from their manufacturers. We also warrant our work.

Why solar?

As we've demonstrated in this FAQ, there are a number of factors to consider in going solar. There are also a number of reasons to consider solar. Schedule your True Solar Consultation today!



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Have Questions? We Have Answers!

HOW GRID-TIED SOLAR WORKS



Solar Panels

Each individual panel is constructed of a layer of silicon cells, a metal frame, a glass casing surrounded by a special film, and wiring. The solar cells, which are also referred to as photovoltaic cells, absorb sunlight during daylight hours.

Inverter

An inverter is one of the most important pieces of equipment in a solar energy system. It's a device that converts direct current (DC) electricity, which is what a solar panel generates, to alternating current (AC) electricity, which the electrical grid uses.

Battery Batteries store energy generated by your panels for use when you actually need it. Solar batteries are an alternative (or addition to) feeding energy back to the grid and can help you make your house or facility somewhat immune from power outages and even help take it off-grid entirely.

Breaker

The main breaker shuts off power to the entire house if the overall load demand grows too high or if there is another serious problem in the electrical system. Usually, these problems involve momentary power surges, but sometimes there may be system problems that will need to be diagnosed.

Meter

A meter is used to measure the electricity flowing in both directions-to and from your home. Your utility company will often provide credits for any surplus power you send back to the grid. This is known as net metering.

Utility Grid The power grid delivers electricity from power plants to homes and businesses across the nation. It is an electrical network that generates and distributes electricity across a large area. The network includes energy utility companies and energy suppliers that deliver electricity to your home.

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Solar panels convert photons into DC energy.

Photons from solar radiation collide with PV cells on solar panels, knocking loose electrons that form a DC electrical current.



The inverter takes the DC current generated by solar panels and converts it to AC power, which is usable in the home.



Excess production is stored or passed back to the grid.

Excess power can either be sent back onto the grid (which usually generates credits through net metering) or stored in a battery.

Contact Us

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lowa Solar Professionals

True Solar is a group of lowa solar pros with experience throughout the industry. Our mission is simply to provide solar energy to our community in a straightforward and honest way.

That is why we are resolute in our goal to provide a better, more reliable customer experience than anyone else.



Why Choose Us?

- We thrive because of honesty and integrity.
 Without that, we are no different than anyone else.
- We take pride in everything we do. Every project. Every time. We build systems that we stand by.
- School is always open. In this rapidly evolving field, we are always taking steps to learn and improve.



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What We Provide



Low Energy Costs

By installing solar, customers can save on their energy bills and reduce monthly expenses.



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Long-Term Savings

Panels have a long lifespan and require minimal upkeep, which means savings for customers.

Home Value Increase

Properties with solar have a higher resale value, making them more attractive to buyers.