

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What do homeowners need to know about going solar?

Going solar involves installing solar panels on your property to generate electricity from sunlight (like plants' photosynthesis process). It helps reduce reliance on traditional utility companies and significantly lowers your electricity bills. However, it's important to consider your property's solar potential, available incentives, and financing options, and choose a reputable solar installer.

2. What incentives are available for installing solar?

There are various incentives available for solar installations in California, including the federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC), which presently offers a 30% tax credit on the cost of the solar system. Additionally, California offers the Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP), which provides rebates for qualifying energy storage systems such as batteries.

3. What will my utility bill look like after solar or solar and battery?

By using solar power alone, one can reduce their utility bill by 50-60%, depending on the solar panels' orientation and shading during the day. However, combining solar panels with batteries can lower the monthly bill even further, to as low as \$30-\$50. This is because the battery can store the excess solar energy produced during the day and use it during peak demand times, such as at night, thus significantly reducing the bill.

4. How long does a solar system typically last?

Solar panels are durable and can last 25 years. However, the performance of panels may gradually degrade over time. Most reputable solar manufacturers provide warranties ranging from 20 to 25 years. It's important to choose high-quality solar panels and work with a reliable installer to ensure the longevity and performance of your system.

5. What is NEM 3.0?

Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 is the latest iteration of a billing arrangement between solar homeowners and utility companies. Solar system owners can receive credits on their electricity bills for the excess solar energy they generate and export back to the grid. NEM 3.0 may have specific regulations and rate structures, so it's important to understand how it impacts compensation for the energy you produce.

6. Why are batteries and solar recommended?

Batteries, such as solar battery storage systems, are recommended alongside solar installations for several reasons. They allow you to store excess solar energy produced during the day for use during the evening or during power outages. Batteries provide energy independence, reduce electrical grid reliance, and can help maximize the value of your solar investment by utilizing stored solar energy at peak demand times.

7. What if I want to add to or alter my solar system in the future?

Our installed systems are modular and flexible to accommodate additional solar or battery capacity. To ensure that your solar system is tailored to your needs, it's important to discuss your unique requirements and objectives.

Email 1 utility bill to contactus@hpmsolar.com and we'll develop a free, no-obligation solar analysis for your home.

