



Highest rated residential solar panels

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Today's Homeowner exists to help you maintain or improve your home safely and effectively. We uphold strict editorial standards and carefully vet the advice and resources referenced in our articles. Click below to learn more about our review process and how we earn money.

Solar panels reduce energy costs by capturing sunlight, but choosing the best solar panels for homes is essential due to their high cost. This article focuses on the top solar panels for residential use, ensuring maximum efficiency.

In addition, Tesla panels are surprisingly affordable compared to other competitors. The brand offers a price match guarantee, so you can always ensure you're getting the best deal. If you get a quote from another panel manufacturer for a system comparable to one from Tesla and the price is lower, Tesla will match the lower price assuming all requirements are met.

While Tesla's offerings are solid, there are a few drawbacks. The brand's panels have good efficiency levels, but they aren't nearly as efficient as other options on the market. Another downside is that Tesla's panel sizing is somewhat limited -- there are four preset sizes available which the company uses to create the array of panels appropriate to your roof and needs. Lastly, wait times with Tesla can be lengthy, both from the standpoint of panel availability and service from customer support.

Like many manufacturers, Tesla offers a 25-year warranty on its solar panels. The warranty covers the basics, including degradation of the panel quality. However, it excludes coverage for damage associated with the elements, like corrosion from saltwater.

The warranty is crucial in the hunt for solar panels to complete your home's setup. Qcells is our top pick in this respect, earning its place with the best product warranty. The brand offers well-rounded coverage, including a 25-year power warranty and between 12 and 25 years of product coverage.

Qcells solar panels are extremely durable and are rated to withstand harsh weather conditions including high winds, hail, heavy snowfall, and extreme temperatures. For example, the panels are rated to withstand 4,000 Pascal units on the rear side of the panel. This contributes to the overall durability, meaning they hold up well under strong gusts of wind that often lead to mishaps and damage on solar setups from other manufacturers.

Each solar panel from Qcells comes with a 25-year product warranty comparable to that of most competitors. The warranty extends to manufacturer defects and efficiency, typical inclusions in a solar panel warranty.

Qcells solar panels are available through an extensive network of dealers and installers. The company doesn't have a certification program for installers like some solar brands do, so you can choose any local installer with



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a relationship with Qcells to handle your installation.

As you search for solar panels for your home, it's essential to consider the temperature coefficient, especially if you live in a hot climate. Panasonic panels perform well in higher temperatures, as they have a high temperature coefficient, earning a place on our list as the best for their temperature coefficient.

All Panasonic's solar panels have a temperature coefficient of -0.26% per $^{\circ}\text{C}$ over 25°C . Solar panels from other brands range from -0.29% to -0.35% . This means that Panasonic panels maintain their energy efficiency better in high temperatures, which makes them good candidates for you if you live in the South or Southwest.

While these solar panels are a strong choice due to their effectiveness in hot climates, they have a few drawbacks. While they're not as high-priced as premium brands like SunPower, they're not the cheapest, costing more than Tesla, Qcells, LONGi, REC, and other solar panels on the market. So if you're looking for a budget-friendly pick, this might not be your best option. However, prices vary depending on your solar installer, so always get a quote first before you make a decision.

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