Solar inverter power optimizer

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But if you’re already curious about how much it would cost to give your home an eco-friendly power boost, we make it easy for you to compare solar panel quotes – simply share a few details with us and our expert team will handle the rest.

Imagine your solar panel system as a sports team. Usually, if one player (well, panel) has an off day where it’s shaded or a bit crusty, the entire solar team’s output and performance will dip. But what if you could give each player a personal coach to make sure they’re always on their A-game, no matter what?

That’s what a solar panel optimiser does. It’s a clever gadget strapped onto each solar panel, tweaking and adjusting things to ensure each one is always putting its best foot forward.

Every solar panel has a point, called the maximum power point, where it generates the most electricity. This point can vary because of factors like temperature and shading – but the optimiser constantly adjusts the voltage and current of its respective solar panel to keep it operating at this maximum power point.

This optimisation ensures that, even if some panels are underperforming because of external factors, the rest of the panels in the array aren’t negatively affected and can continue to generate electricity at their peak efficiency.

Let’s start with DC optimisers. We add these smart devices onto traditional solar panels and they work like mini power stations, optimising DC electricity from each panel before it gets converted to AC electricity.

DC optimisers are classed as module-level power electronics (MLPEs) – a term for optimisers attached to each individual solar panel. Meanwhile, smart solar panels have optimisers built right into them, with no add-ons needed, so you get optimised solar energy straight out of the box.

If you’ve already got traditional solar panels and want to boost their performance, DC optimisers are a great (retro)fit. But if you’re starting from scratch or updating your system, consider smart solar panels with built-in optimisers, offering an all-in-one solar solution.

The cost of solar panel optimisers in the UK can vary widely, primarily depending on the brand, type, and the number of panels in your array. In the table above, we’ve looked at the average number of panels needed for a typical household size.

As a rough estimate, you might expect to pay around £40 per DC optimiser, including installation if it’s your first time buying panels. For smart solar panels, you can expect to pay around £180

per panel.

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