

# Things to note when purchasing rooftop photovoltaic panels

How do I know if my roof needs solar panels?

A solar company like SunPower can check your roof for signs of instability and damage. Consulting a professional will also give you a better idea of how many solar panels you can fit on your roof. 2. Energy needs Consider how much energy you need before you decide how many solar panels to install.

#### Can a roof support solar panels?

Make sure your roof can support solar panels. A solar installer, roofing expert, or structural engineer can help you determine your roof's solar suitability.

#### What if my home is not suitable for rooftop solar?

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory's SolarTRACE tool can give you a general idea of how long it may take to complete the permitting, inspection, and interconnection process in your jurisdiction. If your home is not suitable for rooftop solar, you can still get the benefits of clean energy by investing in a community or shared solar program.

### How do I determine my home's solar rooftop potential?

Determine your home's solar potential. Aside from your roof's condition, your home's solar rooftop potential depends on your geographic location, the position of your home in relation to the sun, how much shade you have, and the PV system you and your installer choose.

#### Do rooftop solar panels need a lot of maintenance?

Rooftop solar panels do not require much maintenancebut they will not function efficiently without any either. If you find the maintenance requirements too much to handle on your own or too expensive to outsource, you need to be aware that the solar panel efficiency will be lower and the lifespan shorter. What to know before going solar?

## Should I add a solar energy system to my roof?

You may be considering the option of adding a solar energy system to your home's roof or finding another way to harness the sun's energy. While there's no one-size-fits-all solar solution, here are some resources that can help you figure out what's best for you. Consider these questions before you go solar. See the Spanish version here.

Best practices for installing rooftop solar panels. The key to increasing your energy independence is to make smart decisions about your renewable energy systems. To help you make the right choice, we"ve put together 18 top tips you ...

The first is the one you"re likely most familiar with - photovoltaics, or PV. These are the panels you"ve seen



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on rooftops or in fields. When the sun shines onto a solar panel, photons from the sunlight are absorbed by the cells in the panel, ...

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