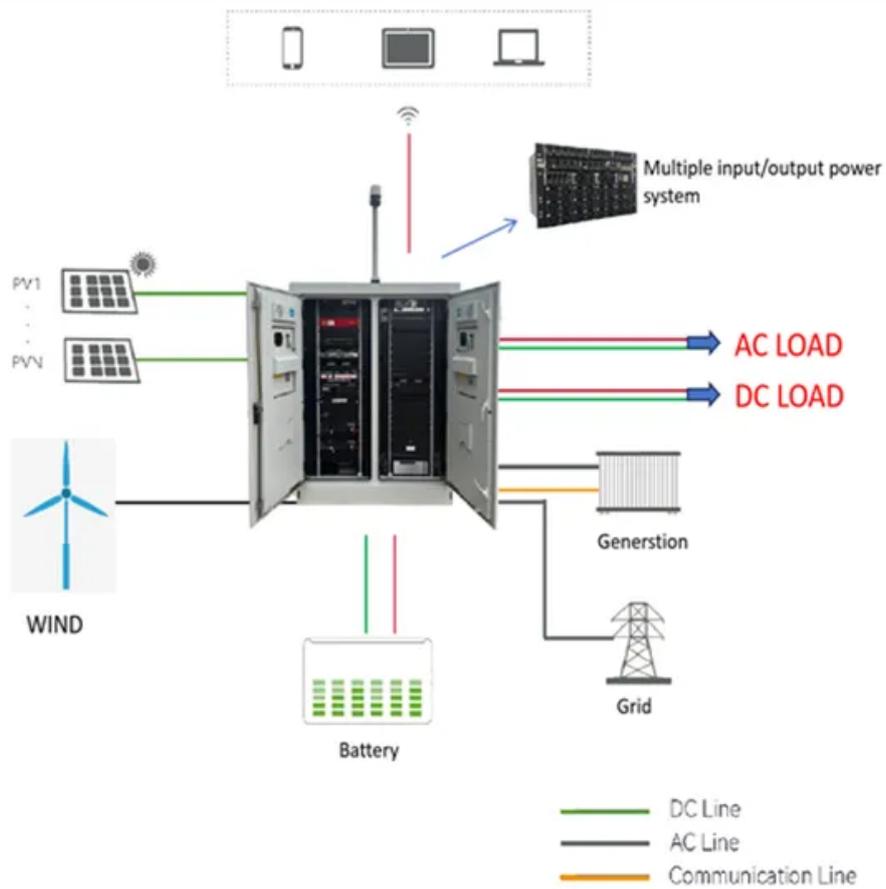**ContainerPower Energy Solutions**

The real price of solar panels

Overview

As of 2025, the average cost of residential solar panels in the U.S. is between $15,000 and $25,000 before incentives. This typically translates to about $2.50 to $3.50 per watt of installed capacity (more on price per watt below).

The average cost of solar panels ranges from $2.50 to $3.50 per watt installed, with most homeowners paying between $15,000 and $35,000 for a complete system before incentives. After applying the 30% federal tax credit, net costs typically range from $10,500 to $24,500.

Based on our 2025 survey of 1,000 solar customers, the national average price for a single solar panel professionally installed is $1,200. This means most full-size systems of between 20 and 30 panels cost between $24,000 and $36,000.

Solar panels cost about $21,816 on average when purchased with cash or $26,004 when purchased with a loan for a 7.2 kW system. While that price tag seems steep, the electricity bill savings you get from solar panels make them a worthwhile investment for most Americans.

To find the most up-to-date solar panel costs in 2025, we compared research from the U.S. Department of Energy and prices from 54 retailers and manufacturers for popular solar panel brands. This chart refers to the average cost range across all common solar system sizes.

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