



Cost of fitting solar panels

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This cost guide was written in partnership with our professional estimators here at Checkatrade. Our estimators are Chartered Members (MRICS) of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and Members of the Chartered Institute of Building (MCIOB).

The cost of solar panels per kW system vary. The price depends on the type and size of the system you choose. As an estimate using the most common size, you're looking at around £8,000 for a 4kW photovoltaic (PV) system.

The bigger the size of your solar panel system, the higher your solar panel installation cost will be. With this in mind, you might be tempted to purchase a smaller system, but don't fall into this trap! Solar panel systems with higher kW can generate more electricity. That means you'll be able to save more money in the long run.

Unlike photovoltaic (PV) systems (what we normally refer to when we talk about solar panels), solar thermal panels don't convert sunlight into electricity. Instead, they use sunlight to provide heat for hot water and home heating systems.

Being able to get a rough estimate can really help when trying to budget for a larger project like installing solar panels. Why not make a few choices and let our calculator help you work out the approximate costs?

Usually, there will be two people installing your system, which comes to around £600 per day. Solar panels are usually installed on your roof in a single day. However, larger systems will often take more time to install, which can cause labour costs to climb.

Different companies will charge different amounts for solar panel installation. So, we'd recommend contacting at least three installers to get their prices. This will help you to gain a better understanding of the prices in your local area.

To make it easier for you, just use our request a quote feature. We'll take a few details about what you're looking for, and we'll send them to solar panel installers in your area. Then, they'll get in touch with some quotes for you to pick from!

As you can probably tell, there's no easy answer as to exactly how much your solar panel installation will cost. Instead, your overall cost will depend on a number of factors. Here are the key ones:

However, there are different types of solar PV panels, with the variation being the silicon itself and the kind of glass. The closer the alignment of the silicon molecules, the more efficient the panel.

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These consist of cells where many silicone crystals are bonded together. They tend to be cheaper to produce and as such tend to be more affordable for homeowners to buy. However, they also tend to be less efficient and less durable than monocrystalline cells.

These thin, flexible panels are less noticeable than monocrystalline or polycrystalline panels. They tend to be cheaper than other kinds of solar panels, but you'll usually pay a similar amount overall. You'll need more panels to cover a much bigger surface area to generate the same amount of energy.

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