



# Gel batteries for solar panels

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Our researchers spent 28 hours investigating the solar battery market, first narrowing the huge field down to the top 27 models currently available. After analysing each one, we then determined the seven best solar batteries.

Tesla is best known for its electric cars – and with that, comes excellent knowledge on making batteries. Its Powerwall 2 is the perfect example, achieving the rare feat of a 100% usable capacity.

That means you can use all 13.5 kilowatt hours (kWh) of the Powerwall 2’s available power, which in situations where you need to use the entire battery’s charge, can be extremely useful.

Solar batteries are rarely cheap, but if you want great value for money then look no further than the Smile5 ESS 10.1 from Alpha. It costs £3,958, which is lower than the typical solar battery price of £4,500, and it has an impressive usable capacity of 9.1 kWh.

That puts the Smile5 ESS 10.1 up there with some of the best mid-to-high range batteries on the market, but without the price hike. For context, the Encharge 10T has a 10 kWh usable capacity, and costs a comparatively eye-watering £8,374.

The lower price tag doesn’t come at the cost of durability either, as the Smile5 ESS 10.1 boasts 10,000 cycles (going from a full charge to empty = one cycle). That’ll mean your battery comfortably lasts well over a decade without much impact to its efficiency.

Almost all solar batteries come with a 10-year warranty, and the Moixa Smart Battery is no different. What separates it from the pack is the Gridshare initiative, which will give you an unlimited warranty if you join.

Gridshare helps Moixa customers trade excess power stored in its Smart Batteries to the grid. If you join the Gridshare Cashback Scheme, you’ll also get £50 a year for the first three years.

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