Small solar water heater ghana

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Using solar power for hot water for your home can provide many of the same benefits home solar panels overall. You could save money, be a bit more independent of your utility company, and cut your home"s fossil fuel consumption.

It all makes sense since humans have been using the sun to heat water since at least ancient Egypt. Today"s solar water heaters use that ancient idea and wrap it in modern technology. Here"s a guide to help you see if a solar water heating system, with or without going solar overall, is the right fit for your life and home.

Solar water heaters are a cost-effective way to heat a residential property"s water supply with the power of the sun. Most solar water heaters harness the sun"s thermal (or heat) energy by directly allowing sunlight to warm an outdoor water supply or by using special solar thermal energy collectors.

It"s important to know thermal solar collectors are distinctly different from the photovoltaic (PV) solar energy systems Palmetto supplies homeowners to generate electricity and save on utility power costs.

Although you can heat your water with the electricity generated by PV solar panels (we will get into more detail about this later), self-contained thermal solar water heaters are another great way to go green and save money on monthly energy expenses.

Pardon the pun, but knowing how passive and active solar water heater systems work can prevent you from getting into "hot water" later if you invest in the wrong technology for your home or climate.

Passive solar water heating is about as simple as home hot water can get. It is a purely solar-powered water heating system that lacks moving parts, additional energy resources, and significant upfront costs. A typical passive solar water heater consists of not much more than a large rooftop tank (known as a batch collector), where the water is warmed by the sun before flowing into your home"s plumbing system.

Although less effective for controlling the temperature of your hot water than an active system, passive solar water heaters are often feasible solutions for warm climate areas that rarely experience below-freezing temperatures. Relying on daily sunshine to heat the water tank, passive solar water heaters are generally better at delivering hot water towards the end of the day, rather than in the morning.

Despite higher costs, active solar water heaters are the most common solar water heating appliances installed in the US because they are much more efficient than passive systems. By definition, active solar water heaters add an "active" element to the water heating process with an electric pump and valve controls to push either water or a heat-exchanging liquid throughout the entire system.

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Here, an active direct solar water heater warms your home"s water directly with the sun. In contrast, an active indirect solar water heater uses the sun to warm a separate fluid before transferring the heat from that fluid to your water supply. By keeping your water indoors, active indirect solar water heaters are the preferred technology for climates that frequently dip below freezing temperatures.

When paired with a photovoltaic solar system to save money on electricity, active solar water heaters can be powered by the sun in two separate ways -- by collecting heat through its thermal components and operating the pump controls with solar electricity.

Compared to conventional water heating systems, solar water heaters can bring your home into a greener and more efficient future full of energy cost savings. With that said, savings with a solar water heater aren"t the same for everyone. Switching may not be worth it for your needs, especially once you consider some advantages and disadvantages.

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