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First, let's simply define solar battery storage. Solar panels convert sunlight into energy, but you can't always count on having enough sunlight to provide consistent power on demand. If it's overcast or nighttime, you'd be out of luck without a good battery.

When the solar panels absorb the power, it is transferred to the battery until it reaches capacity. You can use the power stored within when it's overcast or night and rely on fresh solar power when it's sunny. The battery can also provide a larger amount of energy for a short period of time. It is possible to run a 1200 watt microwave on a 300-watt solar panel, but only if you have a batter to store and provide the larger amount of energy for a short period.

As you might have gathered from the title, LiFePO4 is our top choice and what we specialize in at dragonfly energy. It stands head and shoulders above traditional lead-acid batteries of all types, and we consider it the best lithium battery option for solar.

Lead-acid batteries are likely the most familiar type that can be used for storage. The vast majority of gas-powered passenger vehicles operate with a lead-acid battery to power the starter and other electrical components.

The battery chemistry is tried and true, having been around for generations. It's easy to find, and they tend to be less expensive than lithium options. There are many different types of lead-acid such as flooded, Gel, AGM, or crystal but they all perform similarly for storage.

While lead-acid is less expensive upfront, there are many drawbacks to solar storage. Chief among these is their usable capacity; you can only discharge them to 50% before they suffer damage. They also last for many fewer life cycles than lithium batteries. Charge rates are also slower and they suffer damage when not fully recharged properly a common occurrence with solar energy systems.

As mentioned, lithium batteries, like LiFePO4, have a more advanced chemical makeup. Though they"re generally more expensive upfront, lithium batteries have proven their worth over the years in both small applications like cameras and cell phones as well as in large appliances and vehicles.

Lithium batteries store more energy, put out more power and deliver a more consistent supply, and last longer, particularly compared to lead-acid batteries. Charging can start and stop anywhere in the charge cycle and they last thousands of more cycles than lead-acid.

Lithium-ion batteries can boast different kinds of chemistry based on the application. Regarding solar battery storage, LiFePO4 (lithium iron phosphate) has a battery chemistry that stands out above both lead-acid and



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other lithium batteries.

There aren"t many drawbacks to LiFePO4 batteries other than the initial upfront cost. Although, many would say it"s not truly a disadvantage since you"ll likely save money buying just one lithium-ion battery in 10-15 years rather than several lead-acid batteries.

Battery life is where LiFePO4 batteries make up for the higher initial cost. A high-quality LiFePO4 like Dragonfly Energy is designed to last 3000-5000 cycles of deep discharging and still retain 80% of its original capacity. This is critical for a solar system because the batteries are used every single night and recharged every day.

Because our LiFePO4 batteries come with a built-in battery management system, they"re highly efficient. This also means that they require little to no maintenance. Even if you"re using your battery for RVing or marine capacities with constant movement and jostling, LiFePO4 batteries still hold up well.

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Web: https://sumthingtasty.co.za/contact-us/ Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com WhatsApp: 8613816583346

