

Solar energy for homes panama

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Firstly, Solar is not a direct replacement for your existing utility company electric supply. For example, if, at the moment, you have several 220 Volt air conditioners that are running day and night, then solar is not for you. If you think solar will save you bundles of cash in the short term, then you will have to think again. The cost of solar has come down but it is still not a cheap alternative.

Even more annoying is being at the beach on a hot and humid evening when the lights go out and of course - the fans stop. If you have ever suffered through such a sweaty, sleepless night, then you realise how important a fan can be. After 17 years or so in the tropics I find that yes, I can live without air conditioning - but I cannot live without a fan.

Solar panels are covered with photovoltaic cells. When sunlight hits these cells the photons of sunlight are converted into electricity. This is direct current electricity (DC) the same as you would get from a 9 volt battery. Now to use that in your home you will need to convert that DC into AC (alternating current) the same 110 volts electricity you get from a three pin plug. For that you will need an INVERTER. Simply put this changes DC into useable AC.

Note: we did use other American made batteries that were cheaper - but eventually they all failed. Also, there are cheaper panels but the ones we buy have a 20 year guarantee.

This year we had almost a week of rain and cloud and for the first time our 4 panels system never fully charged our batteries. Each day our total power became less and less. We were in danger of having a shut down - so we bought 2 extra panels for just such contingencies.



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