

Solar energy under solar panels





Overview

What are solar panels?

Solar panels are devices designed to absorb sunlight and convert it into usable electricity. They are a cornerstone of solar energy systems and can be found on rooftops, in solar farms, and at other installations around the world.

How do solar panels generate usable electricity?

Solar arrays create a usable electricity system for your home by producing direct current (DC) electricity. This is achieved through the photovoltaic effect, where solar cells convert sunlight into electrical energy.

What is solar energy?

Solar energy is a form of carbon-free, renewable energy, in which sunlight is turned into electricity, heat, or other forms of energy we can use.

How do solar panels turn sunlight into electricity?

There are several ways to turn sunlight into usable energy, but almost all solar energy today comes from “solar photovoltaics (PV).” Solar PV relies on a natural property of “semiconductor” materials like silicon, which can absorb the energy from sunlight and turn it into electric current.



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