

Solar Checklist

You can print and use this checklist to help make planning installation of your new photovoltaic solar system easier.



Prepare Your Home

Make your home energy efficient before solar installation to maximize investment.

- Take five minutes to do your Home Energy Checkup at pge.com/homenergycheckup and receive customized recommendations.

Do the Math*

- Explore financing options to determine the best photovoltaic solar system for your home.
Buy versus Lease
- Use our solar calculator to estimate the size system you might need pge.com/solarcalc.
- Be sure to use solar calculator results when requesting bids and selecting a contractor.

*Please note, experts recommend that a new solar system **should offset 80 to 85 percent of your energy use**. Many residential systems are 4 to 5 kilowatts (kW) in size.

Find a Contractor

- Pick experienced contractors from whom to request bids using the contractor database available at gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov.
- Request bids from a least three contractors.
- Verify contractor licenses
- Ensure all bids are prepared using the same assumptions as closely as possible so you can compare “apples to apples.” Assumptions to review include:
 - system measurements
 - warranties
 - length of time to install
 - what is included as a base package versus an “adder”
- Before signing a contract, read it carefully and thoroughly. Ensure all costs are included and ask questions about anything you do not fully understand.
- Take your time. Don't rush into a decision before fully evaluating your options.
- The California State License Board recommends that in general you should never pay more than \$1,000 or 10% of the contract price, whichever is less. To learn about a limited exception to this guidance, please visit cslb.ca.gov.



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