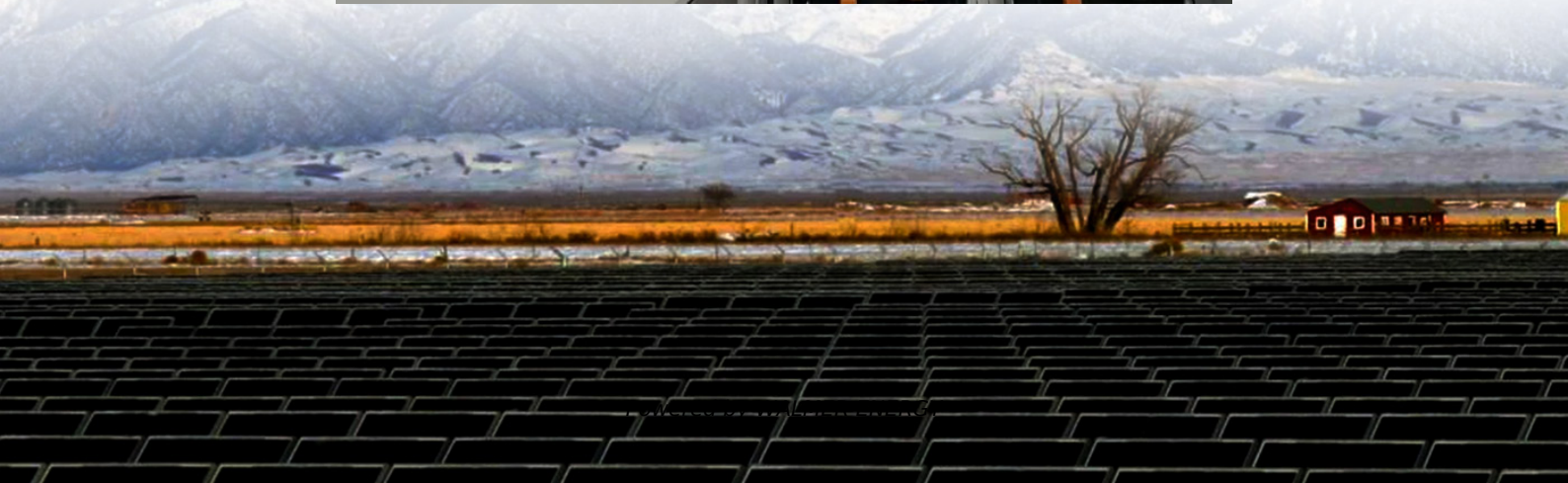


Do solar panels have to face south to maximize power generation





Overview

How much solar energy does a south facing roof generate?

According to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), solar panels on roofs that are tilted 20% to the west from true south will still generate 89% of what a southern-facing roof will. Panels on roofs that face 20% east will generate 85% of those on a roof that's oriented south.

Should solar panels face east or west?

Solar panels that face east or west will produce about 15% less energy than those installed on a south-facing roof. A north-facing roof is the worst direction for solar, as panels will produce around 30% less energy than if they face south.

What is solar panel orientation?

Solar panel orientation refers to the placement, direction, and angle of solar panels, specifying the cardinal direction the panel faces, which helps it receive direct sunlight throughout the day. The cardinal directions are the north, south, east, or west, and they depend on your location and the path of the sun.

Which direction should solar panels be oriented?

The best direction for solar panels is true south in the northern hemisphere, including the U.S. These orientations will allow for the most direct sunlight to hit your panels, which helps improve electricity generation and maximizes your electricity bill savings with solar.



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Solar panel orientation

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Best Solar Panel Direction Overall
South to Southwest Is Best For You
Rates
How Much Does Solar Panel Direction Impact output?
What If Your Roof Doesn't Face South?
Does Solar Panel Angle Matter?
How to Calculate Output on Your Roof Based on Its Direction
South is the best direction for solar panels to face overall. In nearly all situations, you will see the greatest utility bill savings and quickest payback period if your panels point south instead of in another direction. South-facing panels have superior economics for the following reasons: 1. They generate more solar energy 2. They allow you to See more on solarreviews solarcompare
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