

Solar energy grants

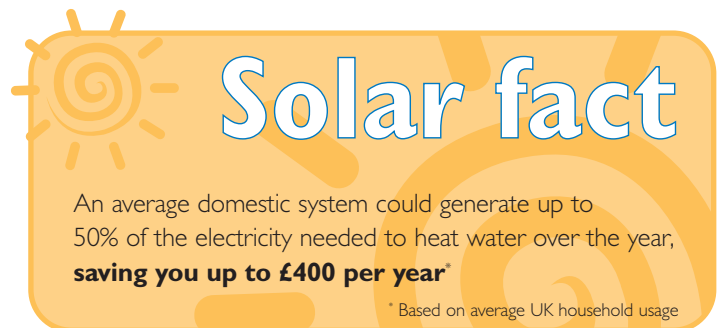


Want to increase the value of your home, cut your energy costs, and reduce greenhouse gases and your dependence on fossil fuels? Get a solar panel today and save up to 30% of the total installation cost with a Government grant!

The sun sends more energy to the earth's surface in one hour than humans use in an entire year, but at present we don't make the most of this free and abundant resource.

Now, with the help of a government grant, there is no better time to start using solar water heating to help reduce your domestic bills as well as your home's carbon footprint.

Solar panels with evacuated tubes are amongst the most efficient solar collectors available. Ideal for water heating, the panels work all year round, contributing to your energy needs.

A graphic with a yellow background and rounded corners. On the left is a stylized sun icon with rays. To its right, the text "Solar fact" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below this, in a smaller white font, is the text: "An average domestic system could generate up to 50% of the electricity needed to heat water over the year, saving you up to £400 per year*". At the bottom right, in a very small white font, is the text: "* Based on average UK household usage".

Solar fact

An average domestic system could generate up to 50% of the electricity needed to heat water over the year, **saving you up to £400 per year***

* Based on average UK household usage

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How do the solar panels work?

As the name suggests, solar water heating heats up water for use around your house (for bathing, washing laundry, etc.). Direct water heating evacuated tubes can be used with your existing water heater and there are no moving parts so there is little or no maintenance involved. In most cases, evacuated tubes can provide hot water for families of up to 5 people. The tubes simply heat up the hot water and return it to your hot water cylinder. This type of solar energy works in winter months and cloudy days too, as all you need is daylight.

What are solar energy grants?

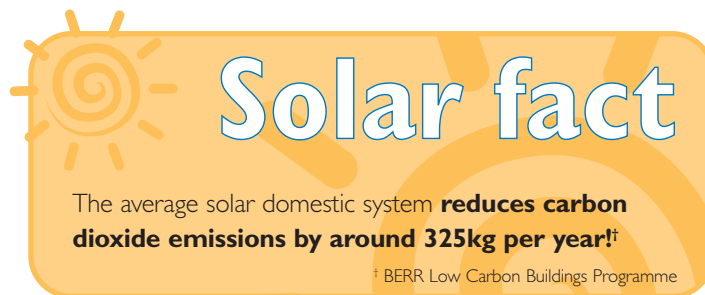
Solar energy grants are part of a scheme of 'energy saving' initiatives designed to help towards the installation costs of energy efficient measures in the home. The Government, energy suppliers and local authorities all provide grants to help you implement energy saving measures in your home.

Types of grant

For solar thermal hot water projects the homeowners grant is for a maximum of £400 or 30% of the total installed cost.



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Solar fact

The average solar domestic system **reduces carbon dioxide emissions by around 325kg per year!**

† BERR Low Carbon Buildings Programme

How to apply for a home solar energy grant

Grants are not means tested and qualifying is straight forward with applications made on a quarterly basis. Applications are assessed by an independent panel and, if approved, you have 12 months to complete the installation. A grant is paid out in two stages: up to 70% at approval and 30% on completion.

The whole application process can be broken down into five stages

1. Obtain a quote and grant application form from the Energy Saving Trust.
2. Order your solar energy system and ensure that your order meets the grant approval criteria.
3. After checking your personal details, including the bank account you need the grant funds to be paid into, sign and post the grant application form. It usually takes from five to 10 days to receive your grant approval letter.
4. Has your solar water heating system been installed by your chosen supplier?
5. The final stage is to claim the second part of your grant. Once your solar energy system is installed and paid for, you will receive the certificate you need to claim the final grant payment which goes directly into your bank account.

When you consider the environmental and financial benefits, there is no better time to sign up for FREE hot water for life. Solar panels are quickly installed, easy to maintain and always work, come rain or shine.

For more information visit www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/gid or call **0800 512 012** to speak to an advisor.