

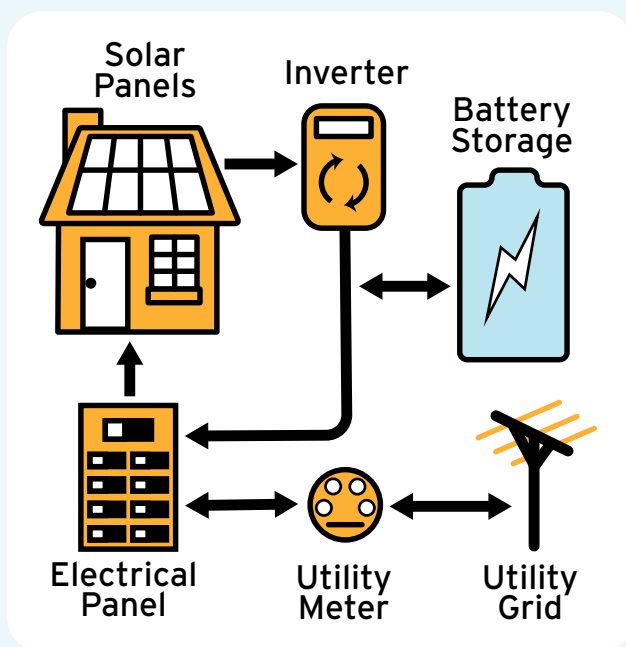
# SOLAR + STORAGE MEANS PEACE OF MIND

## STORE EXTRA SOLAR POWER TO PROVIDE BACKUP FOR YOUR HOME DURING POWER OUTAGES

It's no wonder more than 25,000 Oregonians have gone solar. Powering your home directly with solar energy shrinks your energy bills and reduces your impact on the environment. Adding battery storage to solar gives you even more control and makes your home energy resilient. You'll have clean, renewable power for your home, and any extra solar energy is conveniently saved in the battery to use during power outages.

A solar + storage system provides enough backup power for essentials, like your lights, refrigerator, critical medical equipment or a well pump. You choose which systems to serve with backup power.

Solar + storage is also clean, quiet and safe. Unlike a portable gas- or diesel-powered backup generator, there's no noise, exhaust or risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.



## How Solar + Storage works

- Solar panels use sunlight to produce electricity.
- A solar inverter converts the energy from direct current to alternating current so it can power your home. It also directs the flow of energy to your home and battery.
- A battery—typically installed on a garage wall—stores solar energy.
- Any energy not needed for your home or battery flows onto the electric grid, and you receive a credit on your utility bill.
- During an outage, your home automatically disconnects from the grid and your solar + storage system powers selected rooms and appliances.
- The solar panels recharge the battery every day, so it can provide backup power even during extended outages. The amount available will depend on the size of your system, the season and your energy use.

### CASH INCENTIVES

Energy Trust incentives and federal tax credits can lower solar + storage system costs by about one-third or more.

### GET A BID

An Energy Trust solar trade ally can provide a free, custom analysis for solar + storage and explain incentives and financing options.

Request a bid at [www.energytrust.org/solarbid](http://www.energytrust.org/solarbid) or use the QR code.



## Solar + Storage FAQs

### Why is solar + storage better than solar alone?

If you have a solar system without storage, you will not have power during an outage. Rooftop solar systems are required to turn off during an outage as a safety measure to protect repair crews. Solar + storage makes your home energy resilient: During an outage, your system safely disconnects your home from the electrical grid and continues to provide you with electricity.

### Are incentives available?

Yes, Energy Trust offers cash incentives for qualifying solar and smart battery storage. If you meet income guidelines, you may qualify for Energy Trust Solar Within Reach increased incentives for solar + storage. You may also be eligible for a federal tax credit. An Energy Trust solar trade ally can explain available incentives.

### If I already have solar panels, can I add storage?

Yes, you can add battery storage to existing solar systems. Battery storage added to solar can qualify for Energy Trust incentives and federal tax credits.

### Why choose solar + storage instead of just a backup generator?

Other portable and hard-wired backup power systems depend on fossil fuels, but you could run out of fuel during a long outage. With a solar + storage system, the solar panels continue to generate clean, renewable energy to power your essential loads and charge the battery daily. It's clean, quiet and safe. Plus, solar helps lower your electric bill so you benefit from your system every day, not just during power outages.



Get more from your energy.

Visit [www.energytrust.org/solar](http://www.energytrust.org/solar) or call us at **1.877.777.4018**.



### Will solar + storage power my whole house?

No, battery storage typically won't power an entire house. But you can count on it for enough backup power to keep food cold, cell phones charged and lights on. Or you may need backup power to keep critical medical equipment or a well pump operating. You choose which rooms or appliances you want to power. Solar panels produce energy every day to recharge the battery, but the amount available will change depending on the weather, the season and your energy use.

### Why is home energy resilience important?

Solar + storage makes your home energy resilient. It can provide you with essential backup power that recharges daily, which will allow you to stay home and shelter-in-place during an outage or a disaster like an earthquake.

### Are all storage systems the same?

Battery storage systems vary, from simple battery backup that only works during a power outage to more advanced or "smart" systems that can be used every day and include home energy monitoring. Most advanced systems have a phone app that shows your real-time energy use and where you're drawing energy from: your solar panels, battery storage or the grid. Smart storage systems qualify for Energy Trust incentives. Some smart models enable you to participate in special utility programs such as the PGE Smart Battery Pilot.