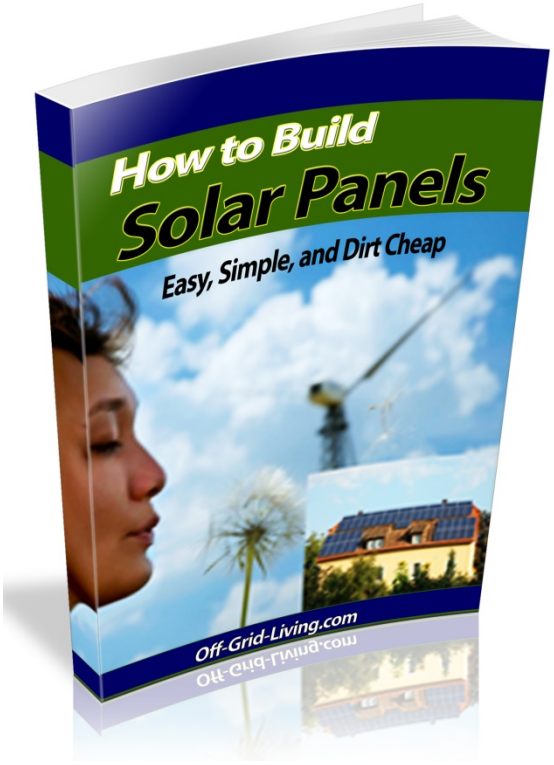
# Off-Grid-Living
## In An Urban and Suburban World




## Lesson #4 ...

## How Much Do Solar Panels cost?

By David Sieg and Information Specialists Corp. 

# The Disclaimers, Legal Stuff and Butt-Covering Section:

***Before attempting to build a solar system for your entire house, take my course "Home Energy Made Easy" Go here: http://Off-Grid-Living.com I'll give it to you for free for being a member of this course. Understanding the concepts in that course will save $1000's of dollars when you go to build your system.***

This is but one small section of a complete action plan for building solar panels dirt cheap. Which is one small section of a course on going off the grid in Urban/Suburban America. You can learn how to

- **Grow your own food year around, no matter where you live.**
- **Slash your energy and living expenses by 50% or more.**
- **Create your own fuel**
- **Finding economical shelter**
- **Alternative methods of (Legally) making money**
- **How to live anonymously**

**Check out http://Off-Grid-Living.com**

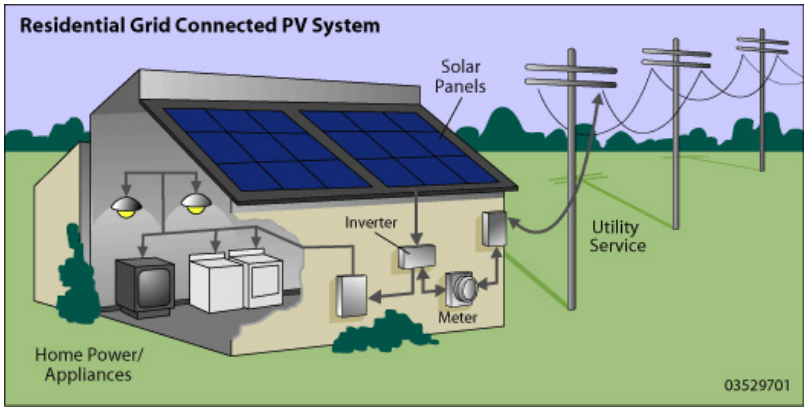
## NOTICE: You Have the Right Give This To Anyone You Want!

## But You Can't Resell this Report for your own profit!

# Introduction

**The most important thing to take away from this lesson is..**

***Once you understand the math involved in buying a commercial solar system, building your own solar panels is well worth the time and energy investment.***




A better question to ask might be, how much will I profit over the lifetime of the solar system?

The good news is the price of solar panels has been dropping in recent years.

Naturally, The cost is all going to depend on size of the house you are considering. If you want to power a small electronic device from a 10 Watt panel it should cost in the neighborhood of $120 US Dollars to buy a panel of that size. I say should because the unfortunate truth is, many manufacturers use consumer ignorance against them to increase their own profit margins.

On the other hand, you can build a solar panel of the same size and wattage for $70, or much less, depending on how well you scrounge for parts. If your workshop is anything like mine, you already have many of the materials and tools necessary on hand.

In taking your house into consideration, usually the next question is, “How many solar panels would I need to be fully energy self-sufficient?” That will, of course, depend on the size of your house as well as your own personal energy needs. Which is why doing the steps in my “Home Energy Made Easy” course is so important. Without

that background and understanding you will easily be spending twice as much money, and twice the amount of time necessary.

It all depends on how much energy you use during a 24 hour period. Let's assume your house consumes an average of 800 watts per hour. That means you would need 800 (watts) x 24 (hours) = 19,200 watts-hours per day. (19.2 kilowatt hrs.)


Further assume a solar cell power generation of 0.07 watts per square inch x 5 hours (Average number of hours sun is exposed to a panel per day); we would have a total equaling 0.35 watt hours, per day, per inch of solar cells.

Since your home consumes 19,200 watt hours per day, this means you would need a total of 55,000 square inches, or 382 square feet of solar panels to generate the power needed.

Let's look at it another way. Let's assume after looking at your utility bills, you are averaging 840 kilowatts hours in electricity per month, AND you want to power your house 100% of the time. Further assume an average solar panel wattage of 200 watts. You would need approx. 32 solar panels.

Assume an average cost of $250 per panel. (32 x250) = $8000 but that cost is JUST for the solar panels. Once everything is added in the price that price will double to $16,000. Add labor and it will go over $20,000 easily for a grid-tie system.

Assume again, you are spending an average of $2000/year on electricity. It will take you 10 years to break even.


Now you can see why the “Home Energy Made Easy” course is so important. You can halve that number easily. Instead of spending of spending $20,000, you could be spending $10,000.

If you build your own solar panels, you’ll be able to halve that number again, to $5000. Instead of waiting 10 years to break even, with a little forethought and ingenuity, which you’ll learn from my courses, you’ll break even in 2.5 years.

Given that most solar systems average a lifespan of 25+ years, and you’ll be profiting from your system after 2.5 years, you would save, on average $35,000 in electricity over the cost of the system in today’s dollars. With the cost of utilities going up all the time you’re actual saving is likely to be much more.

PS…Don't forget you can get personalized coaching at Off-Grid-Living.com/ For some this is the ideal way to get hands on experience as well as personal attention needed to make this work for you.

**Coming Up Next ...**

Lesson #5: "How To Get the Government To Pay For Your Solar Energy System"

Why pay more than you have to? In the next lesson we'll see how you can take advantage of government and utility rebates to eliminate 50%, and in some cases 100%, of the cost of your solar system.