

How to Clean Solar Panels on the Roof

Did you know that more energy hits the earth from the sun [in one hour](#) than the whole world uses all year? And what's more, Humankind has been harnessing the power of the sun since homo-sapien day one.

Here in the 21st century, we have become incredibly innovative. Solar power accounted for 1.66% of the national electricity consumption in 2020. Welcome to the energy revolution! Now sit back and enjoy saving the planet.

Well. Almost.

You wouldn't get a new paint job then let your car sit muddy in the driveway, would you? But how to clean solar panels on the roof? These devices aren't worth the investment if you let them get dirty.

Don't worry! Keep reading! We'll let you in on how to keep your solar panels producing energy at max capacity for years to come.

Why and How Often do They Need to be Cleaned?

Your solar panels build up residue that can decrease energy output by 40% after only two years. Why would they need to be cleaned if it rains every so often, you ask?

Well, because if you live in a humid environment, moss and bacterial will grow on your panels. A dry climate increases dust buildup. Trees in the vicinity mean sticky messes of pollen and bird droppings, not to mention all of this intensifies if your panels lay flat (between 0 and 5 deg).

Keep your solar panels at max capacity by [cleaning them properly](#) twice a year (around spring and autumn).

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The most common culprit of energy output loss is dust. To dust your panels safely, stand on the ground with a hose and generously water your rooftop. For stickier messes, use a small amount of mild soap and a soft sponge or cloth.

Do not get on top of the roof unless necessary and with the proper safety equipment. Cleaning solar panels is not worth losing your life. Avoid going up when it's warm and without a hard hat and harness.

Additionally, keep in mind that pressured water and other rough cleaning techniques can damage the solar panels.

Using Professional Cleaners

If your rooftop is specially angled, or you don't have a ladder/safety equipment, and you are unsure about what kind of cleaning product to use, using a solar panel company may be the right choice.

The right [solar installation](#) company will have a cleaning service that can help keep your solar panels in top condition for as long as possible. Depending on how many solar panels and how often you need them cleaned, they will usually pay for themselves in the end.

Keep Roof Solar Panels in Top Condition

How often you clean your rooftop solar panels depends on weather conditions and your local environment. If you live in an optimal environment, you may only need to get them cleaned every six months.

If you find yourself located outside of the optimal solar panel environment, it might take a little extra rinsing during the year for maintenance. If you plan on cleaning your panels yourself, take the proper safety precautions and avoid getting on top of your roof if possible.

For additional information on how to clean solar panels on the roof safely, call your solar installation provider!