

## 12 How big an inverter should be installed





## Overview

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The rule of thumb is to size your inverter 1.25 bigger than your solar array. In some cases, you may need to use multiple inverters to meet your power needs or increase your system's voltage. Do I need an inverter size chart?

The need for an inverter size chart first became apparent when researching our DIY solar generator build. Solar generators range in size from small generators for short camping trips to large off-grid power systems for a boat or house. Consequently, inverter sizes vary greatly.

How big should a solar inverter be?

To account for power losses assume an 80 percent efficiency. Your solar inverter should have a similar or slightly higher wattage rating than the DC output of your solar panels (which in this case is 4.5 kW). You can size it between 1.15 and 1.5 times larger. The rule of thumb is to size your inverter 1.25 bigger than your solar array.

Why is inverter size important?

Inverter size also plays a key role in the DC-to-AC ratio—a critical design metric in any solar system. This ratio compares the total power rating of your solar panels (in DC) to the maximum output of your inverter (in AC).

How does the inverter size calculator work?

Our Inverter Size Calculator simplifies this task by accurately estimating the recommended inverter capacity based on your solar panel power and quantity. By inputting your panel's rated power and number of panels, the calculator produces a recommended inverter power range that aligns with 80-100% of your system's total DC capacity.



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## How to Determine the Right



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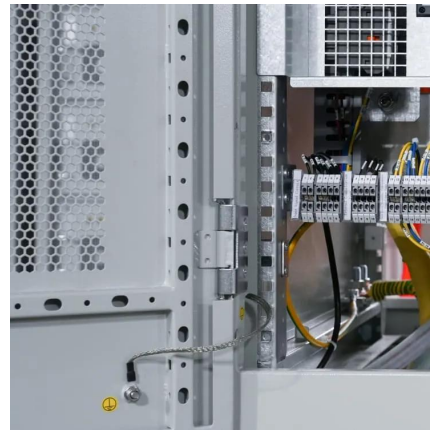
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