

Change the small power inverter to a larger one





Overview

How do you size a solar inverter?

Below, we'll walk through the three essential steps for sizing your solar inverter properly. Your first step is understanding how much power your solar panels will produce—this is known as your solar array size. It's typically measured in kilowatts (kW) and calculated by summing up the wattage of all your solar panels.

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).

Can a solar inverter be too big?

Oversizing or having an inverter that is too big for your solar panels will not produce enough electricity. Undersizing or having an inverter that's too small will convert a limited amount of energy. You can avoid both of these scenarios by following these three basic steps to solar inverter sizing.

How do I choose a solar inverter?

Knowing your array size allows you to choose an inverter that can handle that production efficiently—without over- or under-investing in capacity. The second step is understanding your system's DC-to-AC ratio, one of the most important metrics when sizing a solar inverter.



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Option #1: Add Solar Panels to An Existing String Inverter
Option #2: Add Panels with Microinverters
Option #3: Add A Second System
Option #4: Remove (or Move) The Old System
Run The Numbers with A Good Installer
When dinosaurs roamed the earth and I worked as a solar installer, it was common to design and install a system where the inverter was bigger (in kW) than the solar array. Fast forward to today, and the opposite is true. The idea behind using an oversized inverter was that panels were getting cheaper every year and could be added later. With hindsight, see more on solar quotes at New Energy Technology



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