

Step Into Solar!

Step 1

Preliminary Assessment

The Preliminary Assessment will determine the homeowner's objectives for the Photovoltaic (PV) system:

- o Perform an energy audit and learn about your energy usage.
- o Determine if opportunities exist for energy conservation or energy efficiency and implement them.
- o Determine how much you would like to decrease your electric bill or how much clean energy you would like to generate with a PV system. Use **<http://pvwatts.nrel.gov/>** to assist.
- o Determine your budget.

Step 2

Choose a Contractor

When choosing a contractor, focus on:

- o Experience in installing grid-connected PV or grid-independent(stand-alone) systems
- o Proper licensing and insurance
- o A proposal should contain cost of system, components, scope of work, performance expectations, schedule, maintenance requirements and warranty.

Step 3

Site Assessment

Site Assessment is usually done by a contractor for a proposal:

- o Verify customer needs and expectations
- o Determine solar resource, address any obstructions.
- o Determine array location with adequate area, tilt and azimuth, ground or roof
- o Determine the roof type, age, condition, and type of supporting structure for a roof mount system.
- o Verify the electric system, ratings and yearly kWh usage.
- o Determine PV system component locations, and connect/disconnect locations.
- o Determine the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and their PV system code compliance requirements.

Step 4

Sign Contract with Contractor

Step 5

Obtain Permits from City

Your contractor is responsible for getting the necessary installation permits needed for your installation. Permitting time and procedures may vary depending on the AHJ. The process involves plan reviews and site inspections.

Step 6

Install the PV system

Once permits are issued, and panels and balance of system components (racks, inverters, etc.) have been delivered, your contractor will commence with installation of the system. Remember that the AHJ will come and inspect the installation at different stages of completion.

Step 7

Get Connected

Complete the FPL Net metering agreement (Rule 25-6.065). FPL will install a smart meter and let you know when you can turn on your system. This meter will measure the difference between the energy used by your household and the energy that your solar system has produced.

Step 8

Enjoy

Enjoy being an environmental steward by reducing your carbon footprint. Also, enjoy paying your electricity company less money each month.



Go SOLAR FLORIDA

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