

Frequently Asked Questions

I know a solar roof is good for the environment, but can it actually save me money?

A solar roof system from DeSol Power Tiles starts saving you money as soon as it's installed. The higher your electricity bills, the shorter your estimated payback period. A typical DeSol solar roof system will virtually eliminate your monthly electric bill, and will pay for itself in seven to eight years. If your system generates more energy than you need, you can eliminate your monthly electricity bills and receive credits from your utility company.

Solar energy is a great home efficiency upgrade that enables you to reduce your carbon footprint while also improving property value. In some states, you might even be able to earn additional incentives in the form of solar renewable energy certificates (SRECs) or other programs that provide credits for the electricity your solar panels generate. Depending on the size of your home and your system, these credits can add up to a significant benefit.

Do you just sell the solar tiles, or a whole system?

In addition to our solar tiles, we supply coordinating roof tile styles to complete an aesthetically pleasing roof installation. We offer both full-size and half-size blind tiles (without the solar panel), cover tiles for the right and left edges of a roof, and coordinating pitch tiles for the top of the roof. Blind tiles, cover tiles, and pitch tiles can be cut to size as necessary.

Are DeSol Power Tiles guaranteed?

Performance and durability are guaranteed for 30 years. The color of the tiles is guaranteed for 10 years.

What colors are available?

Solar tiles and all coordinating tile styles are available in three color choices: black, gray, and Spanish (red clay). The color of the tiles is guaranteed for 10 years.

Where are DeSol Power Tiles manufactured?

Our unique and patented solar tiles are manufactured in the US.

How does the DeSol solar roof system work?

When you install a DeSol solar roof system, you're installing energy efficiency for the long term. The system's building-integrated photovoltaic (PV) solar panels capture sunlight, and the inverter converts it into current that can be used in your home. An electric panel in your home feeds the energy from the inverter to your home's circuits. Your electric meter monitors your energy usage, so excess power can be sent to the utility company, giving you energy credits. DeSol Power Tiles have a 17-watt monocrystalline solar panel with an output of 3.10 volts per tile.

Isn't installing a solar roof a complex process? How do I get started?

DeSol Power Tiles, LLC makes it easier than ever to upgrade home efficiency, reduce your carbon footprint, and improve your property value. We can partner with you and help you forecast your savings, plan your project, and gain independence from utilities and providers. We

can assist contractors and roofers with tools on RoofScope.com to determine accurate roof measurements online. And, for roofing partners, if you need more help, DeSol Power Tiles will send an assistant at no additional cost to help you install your first roof.

Are DeSol Power Tiles only for new roof installations?

Not at all. While the mechanical installation of all tiles should be performed by an authorized roofer, the tiles can be installed directly over your shingles on an existing roof, or can be installed on a new building. In either case, a waterproof, flame-resistant, "A-rated" underlayment (such as Georgia-Pacific's DensDeck) must be installed under the DeSol solar system to protect against wind-driven water and humidity.

How long does the installation take?

With expert support and convenient, innovative product bundles and packages, we make it easy to plan and install your system—in about the same time it takes to install a standard roof.

Can I install the tiles by myself?

You will probably need help. The mechanical installation of all tiles should be performed by an authorized roofer. Only licensed electricians should complete a DeSol Power Tiles electrical installation. DeSol Power Tiles can assist roofers and licensed electricians with planning, drawings, and other aspects of installation.

What are the electrical specifications?



Does my roof get enough sun? How will I know how many solar tiles I need and how to position them for maximum efficiency?

The tiles should be installed to receive maximum sunlight throughout the year. In the northern hemisphere, the tiles should face south. For example, modules facing 40 degrees away from true south will lose approximately 5% to 10% of their power output. Facing 60 degrees away from true south, the power loss will be more than 10%. Avoid shadows from surrounding

obstructions like trees, chimneys or buildings. Note that during winter months, the arc of the sun is lowest over the horizon.

Can a DeSol solar system be installed on a roof with lots of different slopes and obstructions?

Absolutely! Installers must carefully prepare the batten and tile arrangement plan and accurately calculate the total number of each type of tile; plan for all obstructions such as windows, vents, gutters, and exhaust pipes; and develop a complete interconnection plan. While the solar panels are rigid and do not bend, the roof tiles that house the solar panel – along with the coordinating tile styles – are designed to be somewhat flexible so they can be adapted to different roof surfaces. This flexibility is one of the advantages of a DeSol solar roof system.

Can the tiles be cut to fit my roof?

Don't worry; our system ensures an aesthetically pleasing fit for almost any roof. While the solar tiles cannot be cut, the coordinating tile styles can be cut to adapt to the shape of the roof. The blind tiles, cover tiles (left and right), and pitch tiles can be easily cut using a circular saw with a blade designed to cut plastic. Each roof tile has a built-in roofer's tape that can be used to note where tiles need to be cut around obstacles or add the edge of the roof.

If I damage a tile, can I order a replacement?

DeSol Power Tiles customers may order supplemental tiles as required to complete an installation. Be sure to specify the style: blind tiles, half tiles, cover tiles (left and right) or pitch tiles.

Is it safe for roofers and maintenance personnel to walk on the installed tiles?

Yes. DeSol Power Tiles are designed and built to provide a sturdy, walkable surface. However, products should not be walked on prior to installation.

Can DeSol Power Tiles really stand up to varying weather conditions?

You bet! Flame retardant and manufactured in the US, solar tiles from DeSol Power Tiles are designed to withstand hurricane conditions if installed as instructed. A professional roof contractor must be responsible for mechanical load calculation (including wind and snow load) according to the roof design. DeSol Power Tiles are UL580 certified to 35 pounds per square foot.

What about ongoing maintenance?

A solar roof installation from DeSol Power Tiles is 100% passive. Unlike wind energy systems or heat pumps, there are no moving parts that require technical service or maintenance. That's one reason we can confidently provide a 30-year performance guarantee. The solar tiles are generally sufficiently cleaned by a good rain, but in dusty locations they can be cleaned with a combination of water and mild soap. Any large debris should be regularly removed from the solar tiles. Also, it is important to periodically check the differences in power-amplitude indicated on the inverter for the different areas of solar tiles.

Liability Disclaimer

The information contained in this FAQ guide is based on DeSol Power Tiles LLC's knowledge and experience and is believed to be reliable, but such information and suggestions do not constitute a warranty expressed or implied. The methods of installation, use and maintenance of DeSol Power Tiles are beyond the control of DeSol Power Tiles LLC. DeSol Power Tiles LLC assumes no responsibility and expressly disclaims liability for any loss, damage or expense associated with the use, installation, maintenance or operation of the smart roofing system.

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Support

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