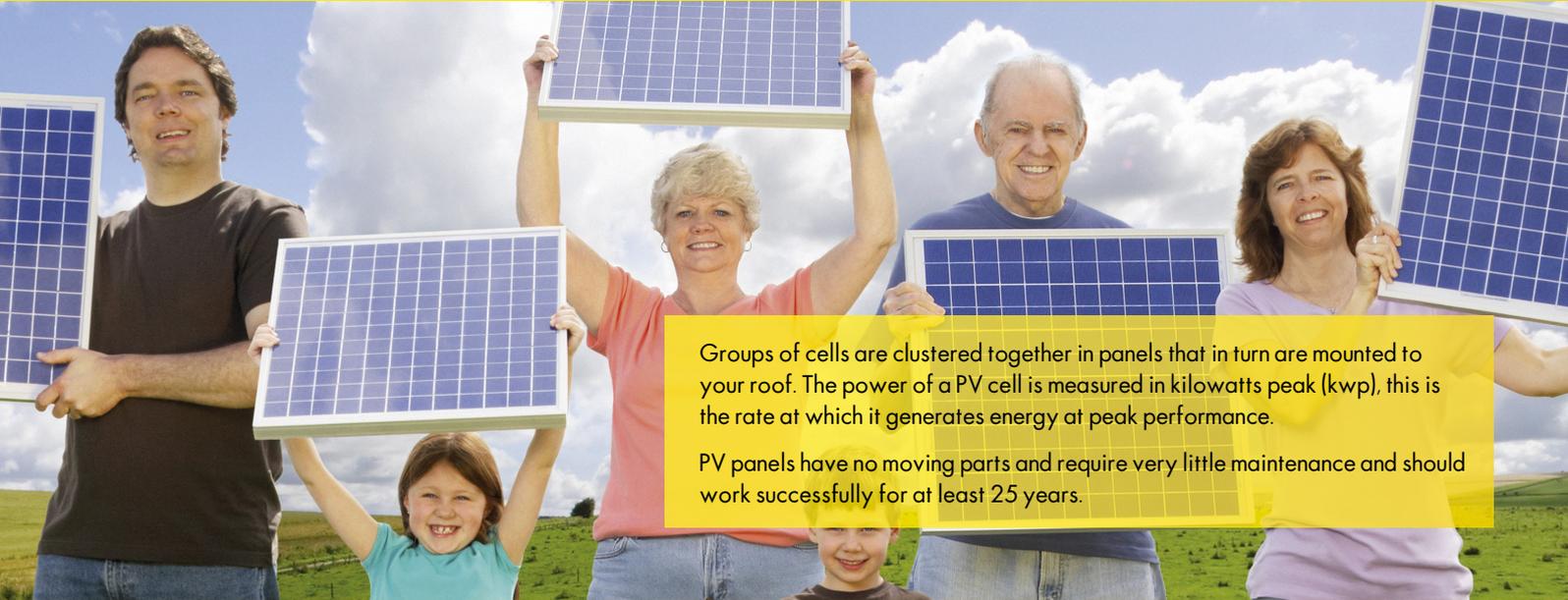




what is solar PV?



Groups of cells are clustered together in panels that in turn are mounted to your roof. The power of a PV cell is measured in kilowatts peak (kwp), this is the rate at which it generates energy at peak performance.

PV panels have no moving parts and require very little maintenance and should work successfully for at least 25 years.

PV panels generate more electricity the more sunlight they receive, to ensure optimum production efficiency, panels should ideally be south facing. However East and West facing arrays can also produce impressive results.

To make the most out of your Solar PV system, we advise you adjust your electricity usage behaviour. For example, appliances with a high energy demand such as washing machines, dishwashers, irons and vacuum cleaners are better

used when you are generating high levels of electricity during the day. Many people use timer delays on appliances, so they are utilising the free electricity whilst they are out or at work.

The electricity you generate is calculated and "refunded" via the Feed In Tariff (FiT). FiT is index linked with inflation and Tax Free so you will continue to enjoy the benefits without interference!

Benefits of Solar PV:

- Cut your electricity bills - daylight is free, so once you've paid for the initial installation your electricity costs will be immediately reduced.
- Get paid for any electricity you generate; the government's FiT pays you for every kw of electricity you produce, regardless whether or not you use it.
- Sell unused electricity back to the grid - if your system produces more electricity than you need, or if you're not at home to use it, you can sell the surplus back to the grid.
- Cut your carbon footprint. Solar PV is green and doesn't release any harmful carbon dioxide or pollutants. You will have a self-sufficient method of producing electricity without buying all your electricity through expensive utility companies.

Get paid for any electricity you generate; the government's FiT pays you for every kw of electricity you produce.



solar PV frequently asked questions



"little maintenance"

How do I maintain my PV panels?

Solar PV needs little maintenance - you'll just need to make sure trees don't begin to overshadow them. Many installers offer basic maintenance packages, however in most cases maintenance is not required.

What size system do I need?

That depends entirely upon the roof size available. A typical house can accommodate anything between 3 kw and 4 kw system. A 4 kw system can be achieved using either 12 or 16 panels, dependent on the number of watts per panel. A typical panel is 250 watts, however some manufacturers offer 333 watts, meaning you can still achieve a 4kw system even if your roof only has capacity for 12 panels.



"depends entirely upon the roof size"

What is the difference between Mono-Crystalline and Poly-Crystalline panels?



"90% of the UK has Mono-Crystalline panels"

Mono-Crystalline are produced from solid mined silicon, wafer sliced and etched to create a greater surface area. A more durable product and having a similar analogy to a Duracell battery: high output for a long period. 90% of the UK has Mono-Crystalline panels. Poly-Crystalline are produced from man made silicon and are usually lower in conversion to the Mono-Crystalline however differences are deemed as being nominal.

Where is the inverter situated?

Inverters are usually situated in the loft, to be near to the solar panels. Or if loft space is not high enough, then will often be installed in a garage.



"usually situated in the loft"



"...not usually required"

Do I require planning permission for Solar PV on my roof?

Planning permission is not usually required, but may be on listed buildings or buildings within conservation areas.