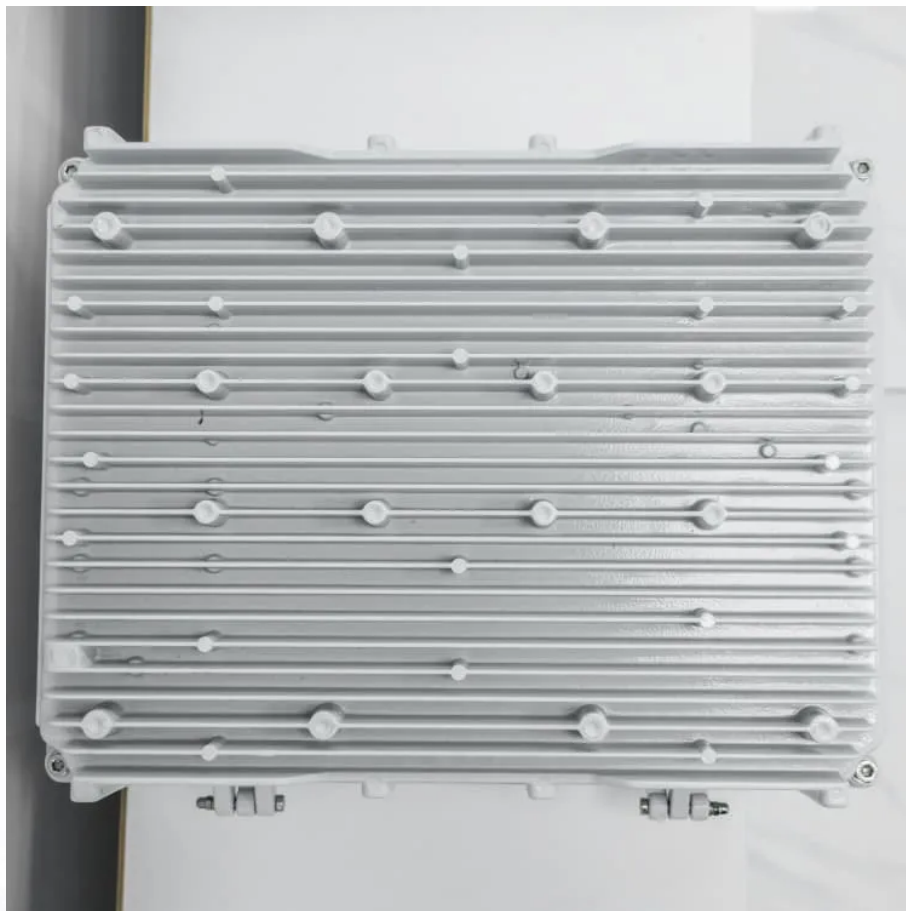


# **How long does it take for solar panels to rust**





## Overview

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### Why do solar panels rust?

The form of corrosion we are most familiar with is rust which results from the oxidation of iron and steel. Other metals can also oxidize, including aluminium, which is what solar panel frames are made of. This normally occurs very slowly because when aluminium oxidizes it forms a protective layer that inhibits further corrosion.

### How long do solar panels last?

Depending on the manufacturer, solar panels' performance can be guaranteed for 25 – 30 years, but it's very possible that your panels will go on to produce electricity for longer than that. The first 25 to 30 years after your solar installation is considered the system's "useful life", but panels can still produce electricity for decades longer.

### How fast do solar panels degrade?

In fact, solar panel degradation rates are highest just hours after installation when they're first exposed to the sun and its UV rays. This is known as light-induced degradation (LID). Your panels can degrade 1 to 3% in this short amount of time, but after that, degradation slows down.

### How often do solar panels degrade?

On average, solar panels degrade at a rate of .5-1% each year according to NREL. The solar panel manufacturer's warranty backs this up, guaranteeing 90% production in the first ten years and 80% by year 25 or 30. However, a study conducted by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) shows a more accurate picture of solar panel degradation.



## How long does it take for solar panels to rust

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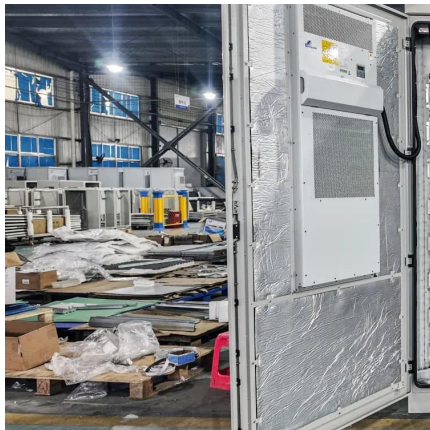
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