



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Affairs  
and Climate Action

# RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR YOUR HOME

Use solar, wind or geothermal energy  
and do your bit for climate action!

80 MILLIONEN GEMEINSAM FÜR  
**ENERGIEWECHSEL**

# PLUG IN TO GREEN ELECTRICITY!

Renewable energy makes us more independent of oil and gas, reduces our energy bills and is also good for the climate. Be part of the transformation and switch to solar, wind or geothermal energy now! Anyone can convert to renewables, whether you own or rent your home.

## GREEN ELECTRICITY FOR YOUR HOME

By opting for a green electricity tariff, you can help expand the use of renewable energy. Make sure that the tariff you choose has a 'Grüner Strom' or 'ok-power' label.

## SOLAR PV ON YOUR BALCONY

Plug-in solar panels can be easily installed on a balcony, making them attractive for people renting a home. The electricity generated by your balcony PV system can be used to power household appliances or your office at home. You will need an appropriate place to install the solar system, a power outlet to connect it to your homes' electric system and approval from your landlord.

For more information, visit  
[www.energiewechsel.de/verbraucherzentrale](http://www.energiewechsel.de/verbraucherzentrale)



**Extra tip for users of solar PV systems:**  
You can add a storage unit to store solar energy and use it exactly when it is needed – even at night.



## ROOF-MOUNTED SOLAR PANELS

Electricity from a solar PV system mounted on your home's roof will not only reduce your energy bill, you can also feed electricity into the grid and receive a remuneration for it. The Federal Government has reduced VAT for new solar PV systems to 0%. Combined solutions are also a good choice, allowing you to, for example, use your solar PV system to recharge your electric car or power a heat pump.

In cases where solar panels cannot be mounted onto the roof, you can also place them in your garden – you will be entitled to government funding in either case.

**44 %** 

of Germany's electricity generation already comes from renewables (current as of February 2023).

 **0 %**

The amount of VAT charged on solar PV systems and battery storage units is

A single standard solar panel on a south-facing balcony generates around

**280 KWH** 

of electricity per year.



**GERMANY IS PLANNING TO INSTALL**

**500,000**

**NEW HEAT PUMPS**

**EACH YEAR FROM 2024.**

A combination of heat pumps and solar panels can increase efficiency.

# HEATING YOUR HOME BY CONVERTING ENERGY FROM THE GROUND, THE AIR AND THE SUN

Heating and hot water make up 85% of the energy we use in our homes. Using energy from the ground, the air and the sun to heat a building and provide hot water is not just a climate-friendly solution, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action is also providing funding for this.

## HEATING YOUR HOME IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY WAY

Heat pumps capture heat energy from the air or the ground to heat buildings and water. They use around one kilowatt-hour of electricity and produce three to four kilowatt-hours in return. Heat pumps work well not only with underfloor heating but also with wall-mounted radiators, making them easy to install, also in existing buildings. In most cases, heat pumps can be operated efficiently without having to renovate the building first. The better the building's insulation, however, the less electricity you will use. You can generate part of the electricity needed yourself by installing a solar PV system.



Find out now if a heat pump is right for your home:  
[www.energiewechsel.de/waermepumpe](http://www.energiewechsel.de/waermepumpe)

## USING SOLAR POWER TO HEAT WATER

Solar thermal systems absorb energy from the sun to heat water for daily use or contribute to your heating system. Combined with a suitable storage system, solar thermal energy can be used flexibly throughout the year.

Solar thermal systems are typically placed on roofs but can also be mounted on a building's wall, your carport or the ground. There are also systems that combine solar PV and solar thermal energy generation. These hybrid or photovoltaic thermal systems can generate electricity and warm water at the same time, which increases efficiency.

# REAPING THE FINANCIAL BENEFITS OF RENEWABLES

Even if you cannot install a solar PV system in your own home, there are still ways in which you can contribute to the German energy transition. Alongside other people, you can invest in the construction and operation of wind farms, solar PV systems and biogas plants and reap the financial benefits of these investments.

## YOUR OWN LOCAL WIND FARM

If we want to make a success of the energy transition, we need to get as many people as possible on board! To allow local residents to establish renewable energy installations in their region, special funding is available for community energy projects. These projects can receive a feed-in tariff for the electricity they export to the public grid, no auction required. Wind turbine projects can receive a grant of up to €200,000.

There are  
around

**850**

energy cooperatives in Germany  
(current as of May 2023).



Some

**220.000**

people have already gotten involved  
(current as of May 2023).

# FUNDING AND ADVICE

The Economic Affairs and Climate Ministry has a variety of funding schemes to support your project:

- If you are just getting started with renewable energy, the consumer centres' energy advice is for you – whether you are thinking about installing a heat pump or a solar PV system. Plus, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action's funding will cover most of the cost of this service.

For more information, visit

[www.energiwechsel.de/verbraucherzentrale](http://www.energiwechsel.de/verbraucherzentrale)

- Under the energy advice scheme for residential buildings, you will receive energy advice for your home; funding is available in the form of a grant covering up to 80% of the cost.

For more information, visit

[www.energiwechsel.de/beratung](http://www.energiwechsel.de/beratung)

- Grants for buying and installing solar thermal systems, heat pumps and other renewable energy heating systems are available under the Federal funding scheme for energy-efficient buildings.

For more information, visit

[www.energiwechsel.de/BEG](http://www.energiwechsel.de/BEG)

- Under the 'community energy companies' programme, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action is providing funding towards wind farm planning and permit costs.

For more information, visit

[www.energiwechsel.de/buergerenergie](http://www.energiwechsel.de/buergerenergie)



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT**

[www.energiewechsel.de](http://www.energiewechsel.de)

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