



# What to Know About Battery Storage Systems

Battery storage systems, whether for your home or commercial facility, can help provide backup power or reduce how much electricity you use from the grid. Having a battery system is an investment that requires careful consideration.



## How can I use batteries?

If you have solar or wind assets that help cover part of your energy needs, then you can store the excess energy generated to use when the sun isn't shining or the wind isn't blowing.

Battery storage can provide backup power when there are outages. However, how much capacity the battery holds, how much power paired solar or wind assets can provide, and how much energy you use all affect how many hours of backup a battery can provide. When running on stored energy, you may need to turn off heating or air conditioning, compressors, or fans so that the battery can offer emergency power for longer.

## Will a battery storage system reduce my electric bill?

If your utility offers rates that change based on what time of day you use electricity, then you can store energy during lower cost (off-peak) times and use the stored energy during higher priced (peak) periods. If your electric bill includes a demand charge (which is based on your highest point of electricity use), then you can reduce that demand charge by using stored energy when your usage is highest.



## Are there ways to help pay for my battery storage system?

Financing options may be available if you want to buy home batteries. Your utility might be aware of (or offer) state or local incentives for storage, such as rebates. You may also be able to rent or lease battery storage systems.

Be sure to talk to your electric utility before you install battery storage to estimate the savings and benefits.