



Home electricity

Why is electricity important in a home?

Electricity plays an essential role in how your home operates. Whether watching TV, powering heating and cooling systems, or charging a cell phone, we rely on our home's electrical system to provide us with power when and where we need it.

How much energy does a home use?

Unlike natural gas, petroleum fuels, and wood, which are used mostly for heating and cooking in U.S. homes, electricity can power well over 100 energy end uses for households. Lighting and refrigerators are used in nearly every home, and they are the next two largest electricity end uses.

How is electricity distributed around your home?

By understanding the basics of how electricity is distributed around your home, you can keep this important system properly maintained and in safe working condition: Electricity enters your home through a service head from a series of outdoor power lines or an underground connection.

How does electricity return to its source?

Electricity always seeks to return to its source and complete a continuous circuit. A typical circuit in your home has two conductors: hot and neutral. Electricity travels from the service panel to home appliances through the hot conductor, and returns the current to the main service panel through the neutral conductor.

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The NEC sets requirements for residential systems, including boxes, grounding and outlets as well as rooms with higher energy demands such as kitchens.

The average U.S. household consumes about 10,500 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity per year. 1 However, electricity use in homes varies widely across regions of the United States and ...

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This device plays a pivotal role in transforming homes into energy-efficient powerhouses, enabling homeowners to optimize solar energy use, reduce ...



Home electricity

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Estimate your home's electric use with a kWh calculator. Input home details for a customized estimate. Find the best electricity plans and rates for your usage.

Explore how the passive and active energy systems in a home are interconnected. Learn how to reduce your energy needs and how to use energy ...

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A home energy assessment should be your first step before making energy-saving home improvements, as well as before adding a renewable energy system to ...

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