

# How much coal is needed to make photovoltaic panels

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Imagine if Texas replaced just 5% of its coal capacity with solar farms. Based on ERCOT's 2024 data, that'd save 4.7 million tons coal/year using 78 km<sup>2</sup> of panels.

An average residential solar system produces about 7200 kWh annually; this needs approximately 1 ton of coal. There is a direct link between the amount of coal used in the production process and the ...

The amount of energy required to create a solar panel varies depending on the type of panel. ... One material that has been used in the production of solar panels in the past is coal.

The solar PV industry generates megatons of CO and CO<sub>2</sub>. But as shown below (fig 4), some often-cited descriptions of solar module production omit the raw materials and smelting process from the PV ...

To produce a solar panel it takes 11 tons of coal. A typical power plant produces 10 tons of ash for every ton of coal burned - so if the panels are made with this material, you've just ...

Renewable energies like solar panels require so much coal to produce the same amount of energy that 7200-kWh would generate yearly because of its high efficiency and low cost.

Today, there is not one single solar panel that can be produced without coal (or even oil and gas). The coal is required as a reducing agent for silicon making and as source for heat and ...

If we assume it requires five times as much mining as coal then -- while still ignoring materials required to construct fossil fuel power stations -- coal requires over 280 times as much ...

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