

Myth: I have to install a battery backup system.

Fact: While many people chose to use some form of battery backup for their solar systems, many solar users do not. [Net Metering](#) allows Wyoming solar owners to basically use the electric grid as a giant battery, storing credits generated during times of overproduction (the middle of the day, summertime, etc.) and apply them to their account when they are not producing as much energy (evenings and mornings, wintertime).

Myth: I can only install solar panels if I have a south facing roof.

Fact: East and west facing roofs are almost as good as south facing roofs. The difference in generation is usually very small and, in some cases there is no difference at all!

Myth: I can only install solar panels if I have space on my house roof.

Fact: There are many options for where to install your solar system. It *can* be installed on your house roof, but it can also be installed on an outbuilding (such as a shed or garage) or on a ground-mounted system in your yard.

Myth: I can only install a solar system if I have tens of thousands of dollars sitting around.

Fact: While solar systems do, typically, require some upfront funding, there are ways to bring down the cost of installation. If you can't afford to install a large system, most installers will work with you to install a small system to begin and then add panels as you can afford them. This brings down the upfront cost of a system, making it affordable for more people.

Solar businesses can apply for the [Rural Energy For America Program \(REAP\)](#) grant, which will pay for up to 25% of a solar system for qualifying businesses. Residential users are still able to use the [Residential Renewable Energy Tax Credit](#), which allows solar users to claim up to 30% of the cost of their system as a tax credit.

Myth: There are no loans to help with the cost of solar installation.

Fact: Several banks offer loans for installing a solar system. Some banks work with individual installers only, others offer loans to anyone interested who qualifies. Call your local solar installer to see if they have a bank that works with them or talk to your bank to find out if they have a program. If they don't, ask if they would consider solar loans. You may be surprised to find that funding is more available than you think!