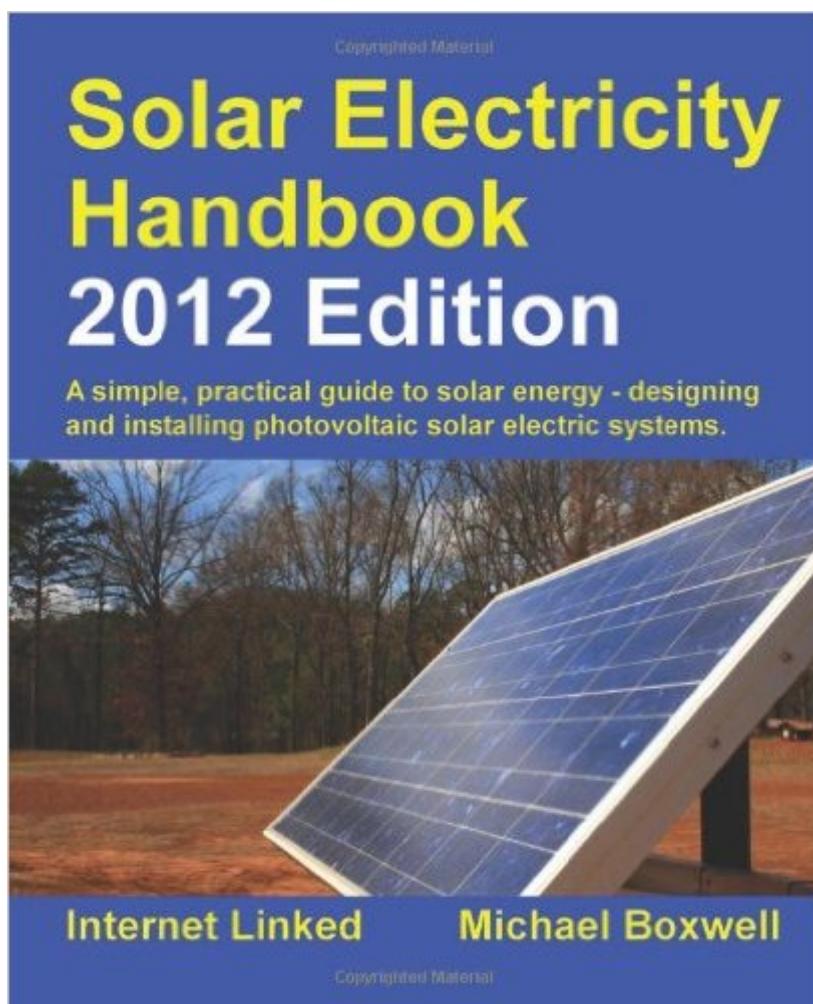


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# **Solar Electricity Handbook - 2012 Edition: A Simple Practical Guide To Solar Energy - Designing And Installing Photovoltaic Solar Electric Systems**



## **Synopsis**

The Solar Electricity Handbook is a practical and straightforward guide to using electric solar panels. Assuming no previous knowledge of solar panels, the book explains how solar panels work, how they can be used and explains the steps you need to take to successfully design and install a solar electric system from scratch using photovoltaic solar panels. This is an up to date 2012 Edition of the book with even more diagrams, details and up-to-the-minute information on this exciting technology. Accompanying this book is a solar resource website containing lots of useful information, lists of suppliers and on-line solar energy calculators that will simplify the cost analysis and design processes. Why buy the Solar Electricity Handbook? The Handbook is a simple, practical guide to using electric photovoltaic panels. The book is suitable for enthusiastic novices, students and building professionals. Clear examples, diagrams and example projects are given to demonstrate the true capabilities of these systems. The Handbook is updated yearly, providing an up-to-date reference for anyone planning to use electric photovoltaic technology. It is the most comprehensive book on solar electric systems available today. It is backed up by the most powerful online calculator tools available, to make your design and calculations as straightforward as possible. With comprehensive detail in the book for all around the world, the Handbook provides you with information that is relevant to you and your project - where ever you live.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is a well-written book with exactly the details you need if you are planning your own DIY solar

project, or preparing to buy or contract out for a solar power system. I bought several books on the subject, and this is the only one to answer my very specific questions, such as where to put fuses and isolation switches. It seems up to date and gives the names of respected manufacturers. I enjoyed the thorough discussions on related topics, such as the tilt angle for the panels and the pros-and-cons of the different system types (grid-tied, off-grid, etc.) Although I am thoroughly impressed with the contents of the book I think it could be improved by giving examples, with brands and component ratings for specific systems, such as wiring diagrams for a 100-watt, 500 watt, and 2,000 watt stand-alone system and the same for a grid-tied system. I would like to see more too on the new micro-controller panels. This is definitely the must-have book for anyone planning a solar power system.

Most of the solar material is directed at the installer and often applies primarily to large scale commercial projects. This book instead targets the homeowner who want to add a solar system to their home. It has the right level of technical versus practical for the average reader who neither has an EE degree or strive to be an engineer or pro electrician. I found the information helpful in both creating a solar system for a RV and in working with three companies to get the right system for my house. Without the information I gleaned from this book I would have gotten a lot less system and though I would not have known what I was missing, the added value of the system paid for the cost of this book many hundreds of times over. Compared to the initial proposals from the three companies the system installed will not cost any more but will provide 15-20% more power over the next 20 years. That is like getting an extra couple of years of production for free. The book is very well written and well organized and appears to have had a good editor in the process as well. Most people will have no trouble reading it and absorbing the information the author has provided.

I love the idea of solar power: independently harvesting the largest resource available to us. So I bought some solar panels and then had no idea what to do. After some fumbling around, I got it to work. Then I came across this book. If I had found this book sooner, I could have saved myself tons of time and tons of missteps. The information is clear and has helpful graphs. The writing is enthusiastic and friendly. I can't say enough good about it. As I continue my journey into solar power generation, this book will always be at my side. Thank you, Mr. Boxwell. How we harvest energy is one of the largest issues facing humanity today. This simple book just might play a part in saving the world - and I mean that. Larry Nocella author of novel Loser's Memorial, available on

This book was one of the reasons why I graduated last May with my B.S in Electrical Engineering. Prior to starting my senior design project I had little to no knowledge about solar energy. My project consisted of creating a grid - tied photovoltaic power system for the school of engineering at my school. After purchasing this book I was able to understand the fundamentals of how solar energy work and apply them to my project. After many sleepless nights and hardwork, I was able to complete my senior design project and I received an A on the project! Thanks Michael

I have been wanting to use solar power for years and became introduced to solar power like most of my generation via calculator. I live in a double-wide on a farm tract, living the good life, homesteading and growing our own and well...the one thing that bothers me is when storms take out power or winter is hard no power I wanted to insure my freezers stayed running and that we can get water from our well. Since then I would love to have solar heated water too and power our shop building, so in reading the reviews of this book I decided to purchase it even though I had purchased another one already. So, this is the best word to describe this book, this authors pearls of wisdom and how smart I feel now. WOW! WOW! WOW! He has worked hard to keep this book up to date with the growing popularity of Solar Power and you will know the difference between Solar Power & Solar Heat within pages of beginning to read this book. If you are a person who has to be in a classroom setting with a instructor talking, have no fear in buying this book because you feel like this man is talking to you and the explanations are clear and understandable! Within 26 pages, I now know Volts verses Amps verses Watts verses KiloWatts verses Circuit to Current. I also know all the many different Solar Power options, how they work, their pros and cons and possible costs and I know what Solar heat is to Solar Powered heating. I knew the industry was growing but I had no idea how many options I have and how to make it fit into my budget. Thank you Michael Boxwell for writing it all down into a VERY Comprehensive guide that truly deserves to be called A Handbook! Does it tell you everything? No, but what it tells you is so much that a professional and a civilian will turn to it often and have a firm understanding. Btw, I am a female with no electrical experience outside of plugging something in or treating a sunburn!

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