



Battery Backup Planning Worksheet

A simple way to get ready before you talk to your solar team; no tech knowledge needed.

A home battery **will not run your whole house** when the power goes out. It keeps the things that matter most to you running for a while. This sheet helps you figure out what the essentials are. **The fewer things you must keep on, the longer your battery lasts and the less it costs.**

01 Information and documents recommended to have on hand

Main panel & breakers		Existing solar system details	
Main panel size	A(100/200)	System size (kW)	
Open breaker space		Inverter brand	

02 What does your utility reliability look like?

How often does your power go out? Rarely A few times Often

When it does, how long is it usually out? Hour or less A few hours A day or more

Does anyone in your household rely on power for health, safety, or accessibility equipment? Yes Maybe No

Do you already have a solar energy system? Yes No Getting them now

03 A few things use a LOT of power

These usually need a much bigger battery or can't run on backup at all. Check any you'd really want, and your solar team will tell you what's realistic for your home.

- Central air conditioning
- Electric heat/space heaters
- Electric stove or oven
- Hot tub/pool
- Electric car (EV) charger
- Electric water heater
- Other: _____

04 If the power went out, what would you want to keep on?

	Must keep on	Nice to have	Don't need
Food & Everyday Life			
Refrigerator/freezer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Phone & laptop charging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internet/WiFi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A few lights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TV/electronics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety & Comfort			
Medical equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heat in winter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fans to stay cool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Security system/cameras	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Garage door	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water			
Well pump	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sump pump	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Be choosy. Picking only what you'd truly need keeps the battery smaller, more affordable, and able to last longer during an outage.