Home Electricity Monitor : FAQ

How Many Transmitters Can I Connect To The LCD Monitor?

10 transmitters can be connected to a monitor, as there are 10 channels.

How Many LCD Monitors Can Be Connected To A Transmitter?

There is no limit to the number of monitors that can connected to a transmitter. This allows you to monitor the power use from any location in your home.

Does The Monitor Store The Data?

Yes the monitor will store up to 7 years of historical data on all channels.

The monitor outputs live instantaneous Watt readings, for all ten channels every six seconds. The following data is stored for specific times:

- The number of kWh used every 2 hours, for the last 31 days
- The number of kWh used every day, for the last 90 days
- The number of kWh used every month, for the last 7 years

Note: The 6 second data readings are NOT stored. The historical data stored is based on the amount of power used during that time period. It is NOT a single sample from the middle of the time period.

Getting the historical data from your monitor.

The monitor publishes its historical data for all ten channels at 1 minute past every odd hour (ie. 1:01, 3:01, 5:01 etc.).

The publishing takes about 5-10 minutes depending on how much data there is (i.e. how long your monitor has been running and how many sensors you have).

Your software will need to be running during this period in order to capture the data.

You can force the monitor to publish the historical data by pressing the "OK" & "Down" buttons together, for about three seconds until the red LED flashes. The monitor will then immediately publish out all its history over the space of a couple of minutes (again depending on how much data there is). Note that the clock on the monitor may need resetting after this publishing sequence has finished.

What Batteries Does The Transmitter Use?

2 x D Cell type rechargeable, available from electronics stores.

How Does A Power Cut Affect The Monitor?

Data will not be lost as it is stored in the memory of the monitor. The clock will need to be reset, as this will be at the time of the power cut.

Does The Monitor Cost A Lot To Operate?

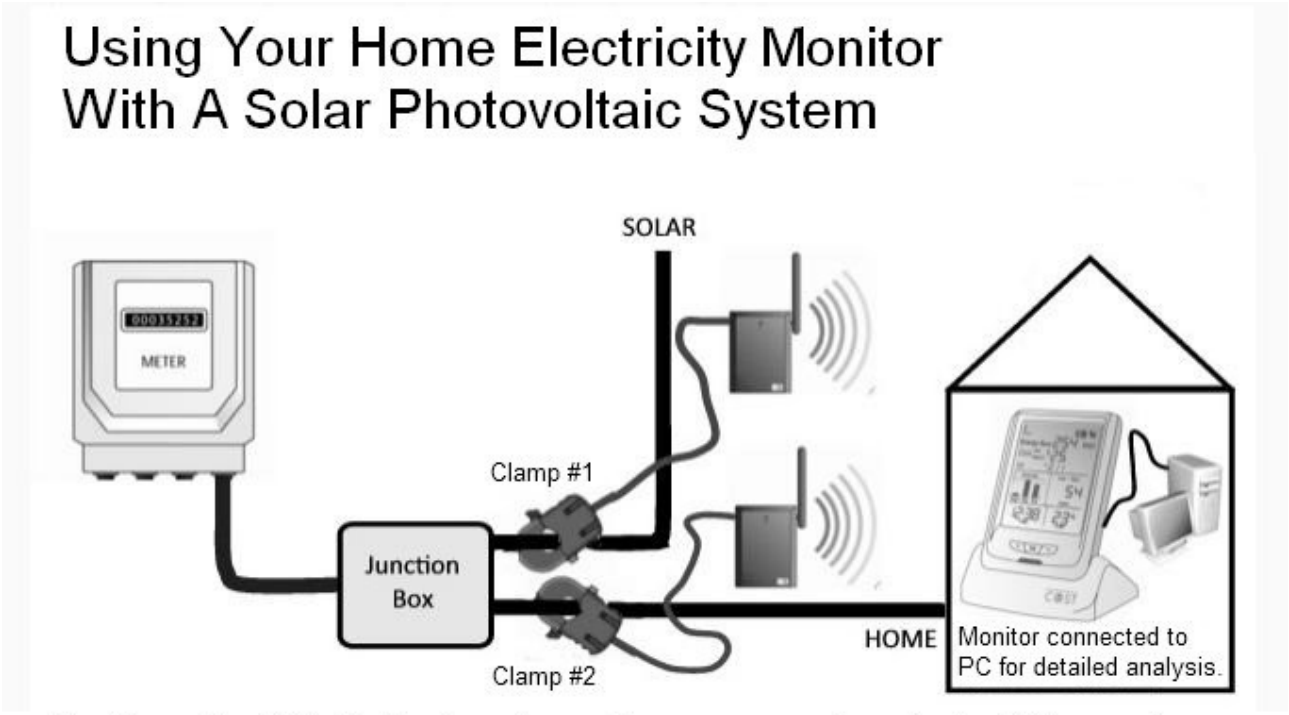
Approx. 6 cents per week.

Where Do I Place The Cable Clamps On A Solar Feed System

- Clamp #1 Transmitter 1 (Solar PV Transmitter): should be placed on the active cable coming from the Solar PV before the junction box where it meets the active cable that feeds the Mains Breaker.

- Clamp #2 Transmitter 2 (Whole of House Transmitter): should be placed on the active cable leading into the mains breaker on the circuit breaker board in the house.

As long as this is between the junction of Solar PV input and the Mains Breaker, the only current being drawn through this cable will be as a result of power being used by the house. Set the monitor to Channel #1 (Whole of House consumption) Channel #2 (Solar PV).



The Home Electricity Monitor is easily used to measure your home's electricity use, along with generated electricity from alternative sources, such as a Solar Photovoltaic system.

As power can flow through the meter in both directions it is important to install the cable clamps as shown above. Clamp #1 measures the electricity generated by the solar array. Clamp #2 measures the electricity used by the household.

If you installed the monitor before having your alternative energy source installed, your clamp is most likely still situated in the powerbox at the main fuse. You will therefore need to move the clamp to the position of Clamp #2. Failure to do this will mean you are monitoring the electricity generated and electricity used by one clamp. This results in a meaningless reading.