

# **Do solar lights need solar panels**





## Overview

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Do solar panels need sunlight to work?

Solar panels need light to operate, not necessarily direct sunlight. While they can heat up due to their dark color, this excess heat can actually reduce their efficiency.

How much sunlight does a solar panel need?

"Positioning a solar panel in unobstructed, direct sunlight provides the optimum conditions for charging," says Claire. "On a clear summer's day in the UK, six to eight hours of direct sunlight is usually sufficient to fully charge a solar light's battery.

Should you use solar lights in your garden?

"For gardens with limited sun exposure, consider using solar lights that feature an external solar panel connected via a cable," says Alex at Bridgman. "This allows the panel to sit in a sunnier location while the light itself illuminates a shaded area. Solar lighting should work with your garden's natural rhythm, not against it."

How do solar lights work?

In short, solar lights operate through a simple yet effective cycle: sunlight is captured, stored, and then converted into illumination at night - all without the need for external wiring or electricity. The more sunlight they get, the more juice they store in their rechargeable batteries.



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