# Is My Solar System Generating Power?

ASES recommends checking your electric meter(s) periodically to ensure your system is generating electricity.

# Locate your electricity meter(s)

All homes have at least one meter installed to keep track of how much electricity you have produced with your solar panels and consumed from the grid. They are installed on the outside of your house and circular in shape.

#### Identify the type of meter(s)

Newer meters have a digital display, while older ones have analog dials that spin around.



An Electricity Meter



### How many meters does your home have?

#### Identify the production meter

Look for labels indicating which meter is connected to your solar system. If there is no label, follow the wiring to see which one is connected to your solar panels.

Digital

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# Check the numbers

You meter will cycle through different screens, each showing different numbers.

have a single meter, nis meter will show both amount of electricity	- <u>88.88.8.8 km</u> →	- 03851.8 📖 🔸	- 00 02.4 3 ***
med from the grid and nount generated by your 5. There is some	The first screen in the series shows all 8s as a display test.	The second screen shows how much electricity your panels have generated since	The third screen shows how much electricity your panels are currently producing (note
on between meters, so may not behave exactly		they were installed (note the kWh).	the W or kW). If this is non- zero, your system is working.
istrated but it should			

#### Check the numbers

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You meter will cycle through different screens, each showing different numbers.



The first screen in the series shows all 8s as a display test. A subsequent screen shows how much electricity your home has used (denoted by 001, DEL or DL for delivered from the grid to your home). Another screen shows how much electricity your panels have produced (indicated by 002, REC or RC for received by the grid from your home). Some meters will have another screen that indicates power currently being sent to the grid (i.e. generated by your panels) with the unit W or kW (instead of kWh). Others may use arrows or sliding dashes to denote the direction of electricity flow, where to the right means consumption and to the left means generation. If there is a screen showing your current production and it is non-zero, then your system is working.

If you cannot identify such a screen, then simply write down the total generation number (the third screen depicted) and check it again a day or two later. If it has increased, then your system is working.

Analog

# Check the reading over multiple days

wiring to see which one is connected to your solar panels.

Identify the production meter

If your solar system is working properly, then the dials should slowly move over time. Write down the current reading (each dial is a digit) and check back in a day or two. If the dials have moved, then your system is producing power. If not, contact your installer or post on the ASES community forums at community.ases.org for assistance.

You will have two analog meters, one for consumption (the original meter) and one for production (installed with your solar system). There should be some label indicating which is which. If not, follow the