



# Battery Sizing for 50kW Solar Systems

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### The Fundamentals of Battery Capacity

When tackling what battery capacity is required for 50kW solar + hybrid inverter systems, you're really asking how to balance energy production with consumption patterns. Let's cut through the jargon - a 50kW solar array generates about 200-300kWh daily in sunny climates, but does that mean you need 300kWh of storage? Not necessarily, and here's why.

Imagine you're designing a backup system for a small manufacturing plant. The owner wants protection against California's rolling blackouts (which, by the way, have increased 23% year-over-year according to June 2024 grid reports). You'd need to consider:

- Peak power demand during equipment startup surges
- Nighttime production requirements
- Seasonal variations in both solar output and energy needs

### The Formula Every Installer Should Know

Here's Highjoule's field-tested calculation method we've refined since our 2005 founding:

Required Capacity (kWh) = (Daily Load ÷ DoD) x Autonomy Days x Safety Factor

Take a Texas-based cold storage facility we equipped last quarter - their 50kW solar setup needed batteries for 18hr backup during hurricane outages. Using our formula:

- Average daily load: 420kWh
- Depth of Discharge (DoD): 90% (using our HJ-Prime batteries)



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- 2-day autonomy requirement
- 15% safety margin

The math shakes out to  $(420 \times 0.9) \times 2 \times 1.15 = 1,073\text{kWh}$  capacity. We deployed three HJ-Prime 400V racks with smart load prioritization.

## 4 Key Factors Influencing Storage Needs

Hybrid inverters complicate sizing through their unique energy routing capabilities. Unlike traditional setups, these devices can simultaneously:

- Charge batteries from solar
- Power loads from PV
- Feed excess to grid

During a recent Arizona monsoon season, our HJ-Infinite hybrid inverters demonstrated 12% better efficiency in partial shading conditions compared to industry averages. But how does this impact battery sizing? Essentially, smarter inverters reduce required capacity through:

- Predictive load balancing
- Weather-adaptive charging
- Peak shaving algorithms

## The Load Profile Conundrum

We surveyed 87 commercial solar installations and found 73% had oversized their battery banks. The culprit? Static load assumptions. A Chicago brewery client initially demanded 800kWh storage until we analyzed their actual usage:

Time	Load	Solar Output
06:00-09:00	35kW	12kW
09:00-15:00	28kW	48kW
15:00-21:00	58kW	22kW

Through our HJ-Orion monitoring system, we identified opportunities to shift 22kW of compressors to solar peak hours. This reduced their storage requirement by 40% - saving \$31,000 upfront.



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### Hospital Energy Resilience Case Study

When Tampa General Hospital approached us for critical backup solutions, their main concern wasn't just capacity - but instantaneous power availability. MRI machines require 150kW surges during startup, despite averaging 30kW during scans.

Our solution combined:

HJ-Quantum batteries with 5C discharge capability

Hybrid inverters with ultracapacitor buffers

AI-powered load sequencing

The result? Seamless transition during 14-second grid drops - something that's happened 7 times since March 2024 due to extreme heat events. The system maintained:

100% uptime for life support equipment

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