

Google Launches Project Sunroof



Google has launched a new service that allows homeowners to calculate how much energy they can generate by installing solar panels on their roof. With this service Google aims to help people decide whether it is interesting for them to switch to solar power. 'Project Sunroof' puts Google's expansive mapping data and computing resources to use in order to help homeowners calculate the best solar plan for them.

When a user enters their address, Project Sunroof identifies the relevant home in Google Maps and combines that with information extracted from other databases to create a personalised roof analysis. Project Sunroof computes how much sunlight hits the roof in a year, taking into account Google's database of aerial imagery and maps, 3D modelling of the roof, shadows cast by nearby structures and trees, all possible sun positions over the

course of a year and the historical cloud and temperature patterns that might affect solar energy production.

If the user also enters details of their average electricity bill, the service can calculate how much money can be saved. Google then directs the user to local suppliers of solar panels.

Project Sunroof is currently only available in the San Francisco Bay Area, Fresno and Boston, USA, but the number of regions is expected to increase in the months ahead.

<https://www.gim-international.com/content/news/google-launches-project-sunroof>
