Cool Home Hawaii – Cooling Hawaii Since 2008

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F.A.Q.

Dual Power Whole House Fan – What is it?

A "Whole House Fan" that takes air from inside your house and blows it to your attic space, drawing in cool air from outside.

A "Dual Power System" will run the system all day long with power from the solar panel. The fan can also run on house electricity. We can have an electrician put in an outlet in your attic that is connected to a switch on your wall. **A timer or photocell are optional.**

The switch has three positions: Solar, off or running on house electricity. You can turn it off if you're running your air conditioning.

How much will it cool down the home?

The goal is to make it the same temperature inside the house as it is outside the house. It's not air conditioning, so it won't be cooler than the outside temperature.

How is it installed?

There are a couple ways to install this system: You can have one intake and two exhaust ducts.

Or, you can have one intake and one exhaust - similar to the display only without any flexible ducting. That's actually going to be the most efficient installation because the ducting slows down the airflow.

We can cool 2 rooms with one fan. We use two intakes ducts and a "Y" connection attached to the fan up in the attic. The rooms have to be close together and it's best to keep the ductwork as short as possible for the best airflow.

Why is your system better than other whole house fans?

Our fan runs for free all day on solar power. Their system works only when you turn it on. Our fan has a lifetime warranty.

Probably the most important difference between the two products is that after the tax credits, our system will cost a lot less. **Our net cost is lower.**

Cubic feet per day is more important than cubic feet per minute. There may be some bigger systems for sale, but none of them work all day long like our system does. Our fan will move up to 1600 cubic feet of air per minute. So, if you think about it, it could move up to 96,000 cubic feet of air per hour and up to nearly a million cubic feet of air per day.

Why is this eligible for tax credits?

Products that run on solar photovoltaic panels for electricity are eligible for up to 30% in federal tax credits and up to 35% in tax credits from the State of Hawaii. Be sure to check with your tax preparer to see how this applies to you. Whole house fans also have a $75 rebate from Hawaii energy. We have the forms available.

How reliable is the system?

Very reliable. The same motors and fan blades are used in our Solar fans. We've been selling those for 6 years, and we've only had 3 or 4 warranty issues.

How loud is the system?

The fan will be in the attic. It's hard to hear anything up there, unless it is installed with the fan motor sitting just above the ceiling. Adding ducting will reduce the noise, but it will also reduce the air flow.

How do you know if you have enough ventilation area in your attic?

Almost every home has one square inch of ventilation area for every one square foot of roof area. If it turns out that you need additional exhaust capacity, gable vents or roof vents can be installed to make the system work better.

How much area will this is cool?

Depending on how the fan installed, it can cool up to 1600 cubic feet. (800 cubic feet is the size of an average second bedroom.)

How much does a system cost?

Every system is going to be a little bit different depending on how many ducts you need and what options you choose. Our installation contractor decides on the cost, but we think the average dual power installation will be about $2,200 - all In. Most customers will get 2/3 of that back as a tax credit.

Do you sell the system without installation? Yes, but we don't have pricing on that right now. Please call to discuss.

Are there different size systems? We are only selling one size right now. We think it's going to be the most effective.

Can I get a smaller system? We can special order whatever you need.

What options / upgrades are available? The system can have the manual switch, a timer or have a photocell to switch the power automatically between solar and house electricity. Additional gable or dormer vents can be installed if needed to improve air flow. Our contractor can help you decide what's needed.