

Measure the real power of the inverter





Overview

kW (kilowatts) measures real power—what actually powers your appliances. kVA (kilovolt-amps) measures apparent power—the total power the inverter handles, including both useful and reactive power. How do inverters measure efficiency?

These deviations have a proportional effect on the derived measurements. The efficiency specified for the inverter is determined using a high-precision measuring process and represents the ratio of the output power to the input power during nominal conditions. These specifications are also verified by independent testing institutes.

What do kW and kVA mean in inverter specifications?

kW refers to the real or usable power output of an inverter. kVA represents the total power capacity it can carry, including power lost in phase difference (reactive power). For example, an inverter rated at 10 kVA with a power factor of 0.8 can only deliver 8 kW of real power.

What is a good efficiency rating for an inverter?

Most modern inverters have efficiency ratings between 90% and 98%. Let's break it down: If you feed 1000 watts of DC power into your inverter and it outputs 950 watts of AC power, your inverter efficiency is 95%. The other 50 watts were lost in the conversion process—mostly as heat.

What is inverter efficiency?

In simple terms, inverter efficiency refers to how well an inverter converts DC electricity into usable AC power. No inverter is 100% efficient—some energy always gets lost as heat during the conversion. Most modern inverters have efficiency ratings between 90% and 98%. Let's break it down:



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Application Note

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Measurement

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