

# Advantages and Disadvantages

## The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

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### In a Flash

#### Advantages and disadvantages

There are loads of awesome advantages of renewable energy - like the fact it will never run out! But it's also important to be aware of the downsides - for example, needing certain weather conditions to generate energy.

### Burning Questions

#### What are the advantages of renewable energy?

Renewable energy is a super-smart choice for humans and the environment. Here are some of the big benefits of using renewable sources for our energy supply:

- **They'll never run out.** That's right - these natural energy sources can replace themselves, making them sustainable and abundant natural resources.
- **They don't damage our planet.** These clean energy sources are non-pollutant, produce minimal or no waste products, and don't contribute to global warming - great news for the environment!
- **They're low-maintenance energy sources.** Renewable energy facilities tend to require less maintenance than traditional generators. And as they come from natural, abundant resources, the operating costs are generally lower too.
- **They're good news for regional areas.** As most renewable energy projects are located in regional areas - away from the big cities - they can bring economic benefits to these places. For example, this could come from more people using local services.



*Harnessing the weather to create energy isn't always predictable or consistent.*

## What Do You Mean?

**Renewable energy** is any natural resource that can replace itself quickly and dependably. Sources of renewable energy include solar energy, wind energy and hydropower.

**Non-renewable energy** is a source of energy that will eventually run out. Most sources of non-renewable energy are fossil fuels, such as coal, gas and oil.



*Cloudy days can impact how much Solar Power can be produced.*

### Cool Facts

The renewable energy industry now employs around 4 million people - and it's growing all the time.

## Speedy Summary

There are lots of advantages to renewable energy, including the fact it will never run out and does less harm to our planet. But there are some downsides too - like not being able to produce as much electricity or needing to rely on the weather.



*More than 168,000 cubic meters (about 70 Olympic-size swimming pools) of water go over the Niagara Falls every minute.*

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Renewable and non-renewable energy

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