

## Re: Request comments on simple solar charger

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2005-07/msg03197.html>

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- *From:* [larwe@xxxxxxxxx](mailto:larwe@xxxxxxxxx)
  - *Date:* 25 Jul 2005 08:33:36 -0700
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> assuming you are right about your project using 1A only 5 minutes a day.

Ah! Now I understand where you're coming from – but I guess you missed the part where I said:

>>During the night, the device runs various lights, and motors and other  
>>actuators, not on a 100% duty cycle by any means. A 5Ah battery, fully  
>>charged, could handle the required tasks – so I speced in 7Ah.

So the device does more than just run that 1A motor and do the comms session.

> panels, you'll need  $36 * 51 = 12.75$  sq feet of panels! Also, you can't  
> even charge your battery at more than 2.1A, so why do you need 6A?

This is part of why I was asking the question in here – the cells are speced under ideal solar conditions, so I don't know how far to derate them for real life. Considering the cost of the device, adding another \$300 to \$600 in solar cells is money well spent if it significantly improves the chance that the device will last for its intended lifetime.

Thanks for your comments – I'm back to the drawing board.

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- *Follow-Ups:*
  - ◆ ***Re: Request comments on simple solar charger***  
◇ *From:* budgie
- *References:*
  - ◆ ***Request comments on simple solar charger***  
◇ *From:* larwe
  - ◆ ***Re: Request comments on simple solar charger***  
◇ *From:* Bob Monsen
  - ◆ ***Re: Request comments on simple solar charger***  
◇ *From:* larwe

Re: Request comments on simple solar charger

◆ **Re: Request comments on simple solar charger**

◇ *From:* Bob Monsen

- Prev by Date: **Re: RFDesign Magazine article--Taylor**
- Next by Date: **Re: Fujitsu demo: bendy low or no power color displays**
- Previous by thread: **Re: Request comments on simple solar charger**