Ecoflow powerstream reviews

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Delivered in many individual boxes, the EcoFlow Powerstream balcony power plant all comes fully loaded with buffer material. This is not particularly sustainable, and the first impression is thus clouded for all those who want to use the balcony power plant primarily for ecological reasons. This mass of cardboard boxes is due to the fact that EcoFlow builds its balcony power plant in a modular fashion. It is offered in three standard sets; however, the completely individual composition of the individual components is also possible. One of the standard sets does not include a power storage option, one is considered the standard version, and one is equipped with particularly powerful solar panels. We ourselves have tested the standard version.

In addition to four 100-watt solar panels, our boxes contain a Powerstream inverter, the Delta 2 Max power station (which won a Gold Award in our review), two smart plugs, a PV cable to connect the panels to the inverter, and a flat cable for power connection. The flat cable should still prove very useful, as it is well suited for door or window penetration.

The smart plugs mentioned earlier are WLAN socket attachments with energy flow measurement. As soon as they detect an energy flow, EcoFlow releases exactly that amount of energy. This ensures that exactly one’s own consumption is covered by the balcony power plant without releasing too much produced electricity. This makes the power plant economically very sustainable.

Also included are installation instructions, screws and tools.

The design of all components of the EcoFlow Powerstream is unobtrusive. The Delta 2 Max power station, which is exceptionally heavy with a weight of around 23 kilograms, has a classic look. EcoFlow relies on black as well as silver elements here, both of which are matte. The same applies to the inverter, which also has a high-quality finish and the described design.

However, we very much had to set up the other components of the EcoFlow Powerstream. One significant difference between this and many other products is that there is no need for extensive installation of the inverter. The solar panels have to be attached and connected to the inverter via cable, which then only has to be connected to the power grid via a grounding plug – done. If you want, you can now connect the power station, although the cable is unfortunately very short. The individual connections on the inverter are clearly marked, so it is always obvious which cable has to be plugged into which connection. The Smart Plugs only have to be plugged into a socket.

What bothers us a bit, however, is the not very detailed assembly instructions. Especially beginners might start sweating here. For example, it is not mentioned at all that two panels of a set with four 100-watt panels have to be connected in series. Certain basic knowledge is therefore simply assumed here. The tool kit in the set is also rather meager.

Once everything is installed, the EcoFlow app needs to be downloaded, which is available free of charge for both iOS and Android. A WLAN connection is required to use it and all devices to their full extent. We were surprised that no more work is required in the app itself. When it is started, all devices are automatically detected, displayed and clearly named. Networking of the individual devices also happens automatically. For us, that means we can sit back and relax: Our setup work is done.

In addition, the app provides an overview of produced and stored electricity. Here, it is easy to switch between a daily, weekly and monthly display. In this way, production and consumption can be transparently tracked.

Furthermore, the feed-in to the home grid can be regulated manually in the app in increments of ten. The smart plugs can be (de)activated here. It makes sense to supply all devices that are permanently active with power via the basic supply that can be set in the app. The smart plugs, on the other hand, should ideally be used to supply power to all appliances that are only used from time to time – such as a dishwasher. In this way, the individual functions can be used with maximum efficiency.

Numerous other settings can also be made in the app. For example, it is possible here to prioritize the household power supply over the filling of the power station or vice versa. Timers and associated delays can also be set in the app.

In June, we were able to generate 64.49 kWh of electricity over 17 days of testing. This is a very strong performance, which enabled a saving of 13.71 euros. Calculated over the month, that’s about 113.8 kWh of electricity production and savings of about 24.20 euros. It should be noted, however, that such electricity production and thus such savings are only possible in sunny months. In winter, the balcony power plant will be largely useless. The storage possibility of a maximum of 2 kWh is by no means sufficient to bridge a longer sunless period: We consumed 15.15 kWh on 17 days. 2 kWh would have been enough for just over two days.

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