

Maricopa Association of Governments Building Code Amendments and Standards Manual	
BCAS #17	
Title: Solar-Ready Single-Family Residential Construction Checklist	
Originally Reviewed by MAG Building Codes Committee: 11/19/2014	
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Home builders who want to construct new single-family houses that are designed to ease the installation of solar photovoltaic systems (Solar Ready Homes) may use this checklist to help ensure their houses are constructed to not require additional modification to accommodate solar systems. Note that this checklist is only a guide and that each jurisdiction may have different or additional requirements.

1. Provide a Site Plan showing the best space available for accommodating photovoltaic (PV) equipment (meter, disconnect & inverter) with minimum area of 4 square feet. Consideration should be given to location of PV array to minimize shade on the array.
2. Locate the PV equipment adjacent to the electrical service panel if feasible.
3. Show on the Site Plan the best roof space available for accommodating PV solar collector panels. Provide appropriate rooftop clearances around the array in accordance with IFC 605.
4. Provide signed and sealed structural design or provide structural loading and connections.
 - o Identify structural loading for PV frame, i.e. dead load, additional ballast load, wind loads. State if live load substitution will be used.
 - o Provide connections for load resistance. Identify and list roof framing, i.e. pre-engineered roof trusses at 24" on center or conventionally framed 2x_ roof rafters at 16" on center.
5. Identify volt-ampere PV electrical load entry on the Service Load Calculation. This load is continuous as with heating and cooling loads.
6. Show an Electrical Panel Schedule with a 240 volt circuit breaker space labeled "reserved for Photo Voltaic" located at the opposite end of the main circuit breaker.
7. Minimize roof-top equipment and vents to maximize available open space for solar collector placement.
8. Determine if wind loads are applicable to elevated solar equipment added to rooftop structure or, if the system is flat, that wind consideration is not required.
9. Run electrical conduit from the solar collector location to the electrical panel and other electrical components.
10. Make sure all equipment is in compliance with the current adopted edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC).
11. Verify that roofing warranties accommodate installation of rooftop solar equipment.
12. Record roof specifications, such as any reinforcement done in preparation for solar, in site drawings to benefit future solar installers.