



# Technical requirements for photovoltaic panel installation and construction

What are the standards for photovoltaics?

There are numerous national and international bodies that set standards for photovoltaics. There are standards for nearly every stage of the PV life cycle, including materials and processes used in the production of PV panels, testing methodologies, performance standards, and design and installation guidelines.

Should a general contractor install a solar PV system?

A general contractor may face a choice between using an electrical subcontractor or a solar subcontractor to install the PV system. A good solar contractor will have the expertise in solar PV systems plus qualified electricians on staff.

Do I need to meter a photovoltaic system?

It is assumed that aluminum framed photovoltaic (PV) panels mounted on a "post" and rail mounting system, the most common in the industry today, will be installed by the homeowner. While metering the system is encouraged, the specification does not address system wiring elements for associated system sensors or monitoring equipment.

Do I need a building permit to install a PV system?

ordinances requiring certain new buildings to install PV systems.<sup>13</sup> Permitting and inspection Most local governments require a building permit prior to the installation of a PV system to ensure the system meets engineering and safety standards. After installation of a PV system is completed and

Are photovoltaic solar energy systems safe?

The safe and reliable installation of photovoltaic (PV) solar energy systems and their integration with the nation's electric grid requires timely development of the foundational codes and standards governing solar deployment.

Can photovoltaic panels be installed on a building roof?

The installation of photovoltaic panels on a building roof or integral with a building roof also raises other code issues (e.g., roof loading, wind loading, fire ratings, weather tightness, mounting systems, roof penetrations, etc.), which may also be relevant for systems mounted on or integral to a wall.

Homebuilders can inform consumers of the long-term savings on monthly utility bills that ultimately pay for the solar energy system. That information, along with much more about how solar energy will impact a home's value, can be found ...

The Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) provides this tool to federal agencies seeking to procure solar photovoltaic (PV) systems with a customizable set of technical specifications. Select the plus sign in the

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