

# Is it legal to install photovoltaic panels in residential houses



## Overview

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Yes, California's solar mandate means most new residential construction-and even some commercial buildings-must include solar. Title 24 of the California Energy Code locked this in back on January 1, 2020. Here's what the mandate means for you. Contractors, builders . Permitting refers to the official approval required by your local government to install a solar energy system. By requiring new homes to be built with solar panels, the state . While the goal of the mandates is to promote solar energy, many homeowners and business owners are unclear of what the requirements are, with common questions being: Is it mandatory to have solar panels in California?

Do new homes in California require solar?

If you need help understanding the .

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### Title 24: Solar Mandates & Requirements , California Solar

California's 2020 Solar Mandate requires all newly built homes to install solar photovoltaic systems. These requirements are based on the floor area of the home and the climate zone. The

### California Solar Laws And Regulations

The California Solar Panel Law, also known as the California Solar Mandate, is a regulation that requires all new residential buildings to include a solar energy system.



### California Solar Mandate For Installing Solar Panels in 2026

Adopted by the CEC in 2018, this solar panel California law took effect on January 1, 2020, and applies to all new single-family homes and multi-family dwellings up to three stories.

### California Solar Panel Mandate 2025: Complete Guide to

The California Solar Panel Mandate, enacted as part of Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, requires most new residential and commercial buildings to include solar



### Understanding the California Solar Rights Act



### [California's residential solar rules overhauled after highly charged](#)

Solar companies and environmental groups say the policy could undermine the state's booming solar industry by raising the costs of operating panels on homes and small businesses.



### **Is Solar Required in California: Mandates and Exemptions**

California does not require existing homes or commercial buildings to install solar panels. The mandate applies only to new construction. If you own a building constructed before the relevant



### **California Solar Mandate**

One of the key provisions of the California Solar Rights Act is the protection of solar access rights for property owners. This means that property owners have the right to access sunlight for solar energy



### [Solar Panel Permitting in California, USA: Complete Guide 2026](#)

In this comprehensive guide, we'll break down everything you need to know about solar panel permitting in California for 2026, so you can get started on your solar journey with confidence.



### **Solar Panel Rules in Your State: What Homeowners Need to Know**

Before installing solar panels, check your local zoning laws and HOA regulations regarding solar access rights. Many states require HOAs to accommodate solar installations, though

Starting January 1, 2020, if you're building a single-family home, a townhouse, or a low-rise multifamily building (three stories or less), solar panels are mandatory.



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