



Inspection Guide for Solar Domestic Water Heating Systems in One- and Two- Family Dwellings

This document is not all-inclusive. It is meant to serve as a simple tool to aid in the inspection process.

All California Mechanical Code (CMC), California Electrical Code (CEC), California Plumbing Code (CPC), California Residential Code (CRC), California Building Code (CBC), and California Fire Code (CFC) references are to the 2013 versions unless otherwise noted.

SOLAR DOMESTIC WATER HEATING SYSTEM ELIGIBILITY			
SYSTEM	Criteria		Yes
		1. Major components installed match those of certified system?	
SOLAR DOMESTIC WATER HEATING INSPECTION GUIDE			
	Guideline	Source of Guideline	Yes
ROOF	I. Roof penetrations/attachments are properly flashed	CBC Chap. 15, CRC Chap. 9	
SOLAR LOOP PIPING	I. Piping must be properly supported, hung and anchored per code	CPC 313.1	
	II. Solar piping properly insulated	See local ordinance.	
	III. Dissimilar materials isolated, as required	CPC 310.6	
	IV. Penetrations through structural members as per code	CPC 312.2	
	V. Penetrations through fire-resistant assemblies installed per code	CPC 1505.2	
	VI. System has adequate freeze protection	CPC 312.6	
	VII. System overheat protection	CPC 505.2	
	VIII. Expansion tank sized correctly (indirect system) according to need for operation or overheat protection?	CMC 1005.3, 1005.4	
	IX. Pressure relief/temperature relief valve(s) installed per design (if applicable)	CPC 608.4 & 608.5	
	X. Piping labels show type of fluid and direction of flow	CPC 601.2	
	XI. Drain and fill valves capped and labeled	CPC 601.2	
STORAGE TANK	I. Tank labeled with pressure rating for pressurized storage	CPC 505.4	
	II. Relief drain installed properly for pressurized storage	CPC 504.6, CMC 1006.1	
	III. Heat exchanger must protect potable water system from being contaminated by the heat transfer medium	CPC 603.5.4	
	IV. Tank installed in garage meets code requirements	CPC 507.13	
	V. Pan installed under tank (as required)	CPC 507.4	
	VI. Tank installed on level surface	CPC 508.4.3	
	VII. Tank supported for seismic loads	CPC 507.2	
	VIII. All valves, fittings and solders are rated for potable systems and meeting CA lead law requirements	CPC 604.1	
	IX. Unions installed within 12" of tank connections for all piping to and from tank and heat exchangers	CPC 609.5	

I. All valves, fittings and solders are rated for potable systems and meeting CA lead law requirements	CPC 604.1	
II. Potable water piping properly labeled	CPC 601.2	
III. Any connection to PEX is more than 18" from tank fittings	CPC 604.13	
IV. Hot water service piping insulated properly	See local ordinance.	
V. Vacuum relief valve properly installed (if required)	CPC 603.5.4, 608.7	
I. Control and pump disconnect(s) properly installed	CEC 430 (IX), 690.17	
II. Conductors between control and power source properly installed	CEC 430 (II)	
III. Conductors between control and pump properly installed	CEC 430 (II), 690 (IV)	
IV. Solar collector sensors protected from sun and weather	CEC 310.8 B, D(1), D(2)	
V. Control relay rated higher than load for each output	CEC 430.83	