



KENNEDALE. SOLAR-READY CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES FOR NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS

WHAT IS SOLAR-READY?

A solar-ready home is designed and built for the most efficient use of solar PV (photovoltaic) energy panels in the future. Homeowners have the choice of installing the panels immediately after construction, or exercising this option at a later time. Several factors make a home solar-ready:

- installation of appropriate electrical systems
- adequate south-facing roof space
- angle of the roof to the position of the sun

GUIDELINES

The Solar-Ready Provisions of the 2015 International Residential Code (or [Appendix U](#)) provide guidelines for Solar-Ready development of detached one-and-two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses). *The below guidelines have been taken directly from Appendix U.*

SECTION U102 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

SOLAR-READY ZONE. A section or sections of the roof or building overhang designated and reserved for the future installation of a solar photovoltaic or solar thermal system.

Section U103 Solar-Ready Zone

U103.1 General

New detached one- and two-family dwellings, and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) with not less than 600 square feet (55.74 m²) of roof area oriented between 110 degrees and 270 degrees of true north shall comply with sections [U103.2](#) through [U103.8](#).

Exceptions:

1. New residential buildings with a permanently installed on-site renewable energy system.
2. A building with a solar-ready zone that is shaded for more than 70 percent of daylight hours annually.

U103.2 Construction Document Requirements for Solar Ready Zone

Construction documents shall indicate the solar-ready zone.

U103.3 Solar-Ready Zone Area

The total solar-ready zone area shall be not less than 300 square feet (27.87 m²) exclusive of mandatory access or set back areas as required by the [International Fire Code](#). New multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) three stories or less in height above grade plane and with a total floor area less than or equal to 2,000 square feet (185.8 m²) per dwelling shall have a solar-ready zone area of not less than 150 square feet (13.94 m²). The solar-ready zone shall be composed of areas not less than 5 feet (1.52 m) in width and not less than 80 square feet (7.44 m²) exclusive of access or set back areas as required by the [International Fire Code](#).

U103.4 Obstructions

Solar-ready zones shall be free from obstructions, including but not limited to vents, chimneys, and roof-mounted equipment.

U103.5 Roof Load Documentation

The structural design loads for roof dead load and roof live load shall be clearly indicated on the construction documents.

U103.6 Interconnection Pathway

Construction documents shall indicate pathways for routing of conduit or plumbing from the solar-ready zone to the electrical service panel or service hot water system.

U103.7 Electrical Service Reserved Space

The main electrical service panel shall have a reserved space to allow installation of a dual pole circuit breaker for future solar electric installation and shall be labeled "For Future Solar Electric." The reserved space shall be positioned at the opposite (load) end from the input feeder location or main circuit location.

U103.8 Construction Documentation Certificate

A permanent certificate, indicating the solar-ready zone and other requirements of this section, shall be posted near the electrical distribution panel, water heater or other conspicuous location by the builder or registered design professional.

www.cityofkennedale.com/solar

INTERESTED IN IMPLEMENTING
SOLAR ENERGY
AT YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS?
KENNEDALE IS SOLAR FRIENDLY

