

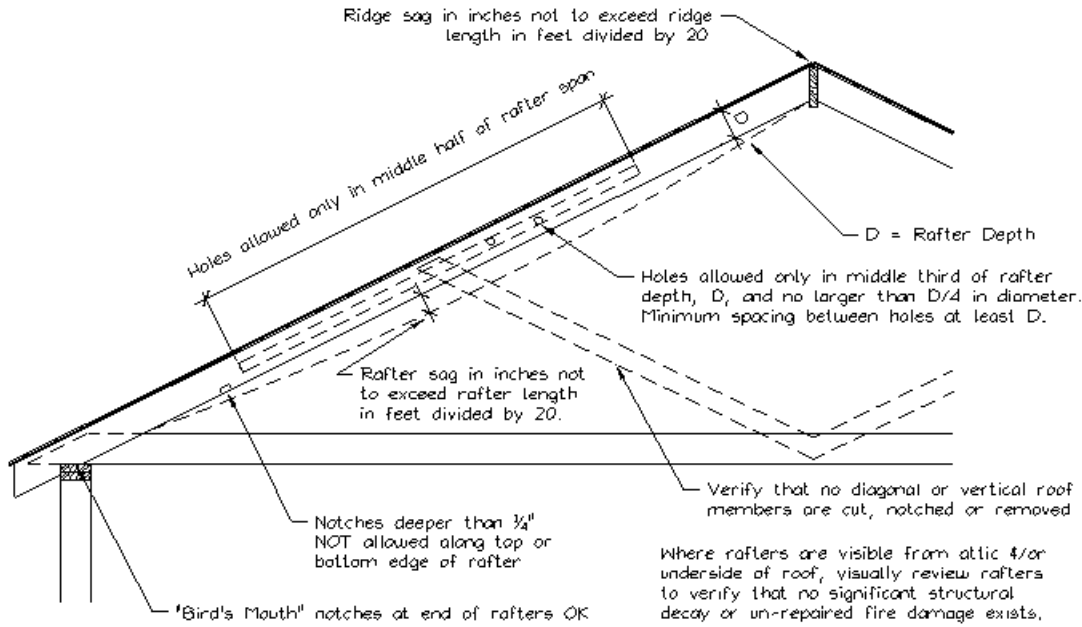


## STRUCTURAL CRITERIA FOR RESIDENTIAL FLUSH-MOUNTED SOLAR ARRAYS

### 1. ROOF CHECKS

A. Visual Review/Contractor's Site Audit of Existing Conditions:

- 1) Is the roof a single roof without a reroof overlay?  Y  N
- 2) Does the roof structure appear structurally sound, without signs of alterations or significant structural deterioration or sagging, as illustrated in Figure 1  Y  N



**Figure 2. Sample Solar Panel Array and Anchor Layout Diagram (Roof Plan).**

The site auditor should verify the following:

1. No visually apparent disallowed rafter holes, notches and truss modifications as shown above.
2. No visually apparent structural decay or un-repaired fire damage.
3. Roof sag, measured in inches, is not more than the rafter or ridge beam length in feet divided by 20.

Rafters that fail the above criteria should not be used to support solar arrays unless they are first strengthened.

B. Roof Structure Data:

- 1) Measured roof slope (e.g. 4:12): \_\_\_\_\_:12
- 2) Measured rafter spacing (center-to-center) \_\_\_\_\_ inches
- 3) Type of roof framing (rafter or manufactured truss)  Rafter  Truss

## 2. SOLAR ARRAY CHECKS

A. Flush-mounted Solar Array:

- 1) Is the plane of the modules (panels) parallel to the plane of the roof?  Y  N
- 2) Is there a 2" to 10" gap between underside of module and the roof surface?  Y  N
- 3) Modules do not overhang any roof edges (ridges, hips, gable ends, eaves)?  Y  N

B. Do the modules plus support components weigh no more than:  
4 psf for photovoltaic arrays or 5 psf for solar thermal arrays?

Y  N

C. Does the array cover no more than half of the total roof area (all roof planes)?

Y  N

D. Are solar support component manufacturer's project-specific completed worksheets,  
tables with relevant cells circled, or web-based calculator results attached?

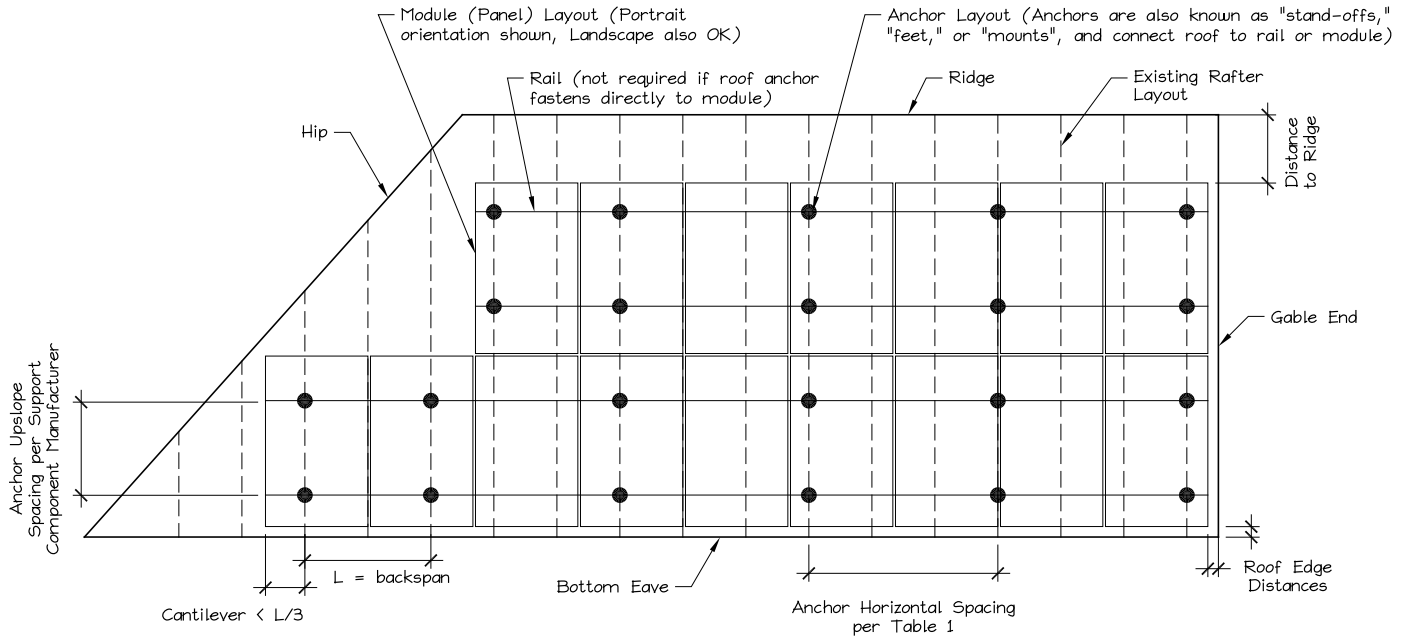
Y  N

E. Is a roof plan of the module and anchor layout attached? (see Figure 2)

Y  N

F. Downward Load Check (Anchor Layout Check):

- 1) Proposed anchor horizontal spacing (see Figure 2): ' - "ft-in
- 2) Horizontal anchor spacing per Table 1: ' - "ft-in
- 3) Is proposed anchor horizontal spacing equal to or less than Table 1 spacing?  Y  N



**Figure 2. Sample Solar Panel Array and Anchor Layout Diagram (Roof Plan).**

Table 1. Maximum Horizontal Anchor Spacing				
Roof Slope		Rafter Spacing		
		16" o.c.	24" o.c.	32" o.c.
Photovoltaic Arrays (4 psf max)				
Flat to 6:12	0° to 26°	5'-4"	6'-0"	5'-4"
7:12 to 12:12	27° to 45°	1'-4"	2'-0"	2'-8"
13:12 to 24:12	46° to 63°	1'-4"	2'-0"	2'-8"
Solar Thermal Arrays (5 psf max)				
Flat to 6:12	0° to 26°	4'-0"	4'-0"	5'-4"
7:12 to 12:12	27° to 45°	1'-4"	2'-0"	2'-8"
13:12 to 24:12	46° to 63°	Calc. Req'd	Calc. Req'd	Calc. Req'd

Table 1 Notes:

- Anchors are also known as "stand-offs," "feet," "mounts" or "points of attachment." Horizontal anchor spacing is also known as "cross-slope" or "east-west" anchor spacing (see Figure 2).
- If anchors are staggered from row-to-row going up the roof, the anchor spacing may be twice that shown above, but no greater than 6'-0".
- For manufactured plated wood trusses at slopes of flat to 6:12, the horizontal anchor spacing shall not exceed 4'-0" and anchors in adjacent rows shall be staggered.
- This table is based on the following assumptions:
  - The roof structure conformed to building code requirements at the time it was built.
  - Mean roof height is not greater than 40 feet.
  - Roof sheathing is at least 7/16" thick oriented strand board or plywood. 1x skip sheathing is acceptable.
  - The solar array displaces roof live loads (temporary construction loads) that the roof was originally designed to carry.
  - The Structural Technical Appendix provides additional information about analysis assumptions.

G. Wind Uplift Check (Anchor Fastener Check):

1) Anchor fastener data (see Figure 3):

a. Diameter of lag screw, hanger bolt or self-drilling screw: \_\_\_\_\_ inch

b. Embedment depth of rafter: \_\_\_\_\_ inch

c. Number of screws per anchor (typically one): \_\_\_\_\_

d. Are 5/16" diameter lag screws with 2.5" embedment into the rafter used, OR does the anchor fastener meet the manufacturer's guidelines?  Y  N

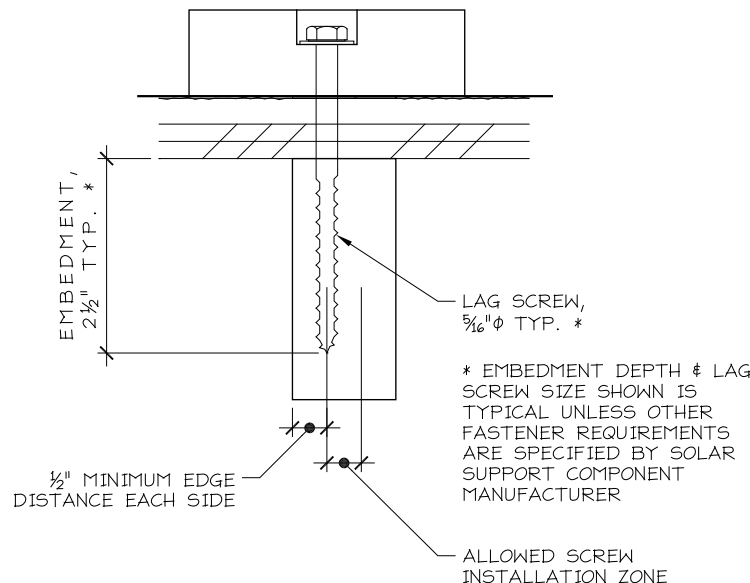


Figure 3. Typical Anchor with Lag Screw Attachment.

### 3. SUMMARY

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A. All items above are checked YES. No additional calculations are required.

B. One or more items are checked NO. Attach project-specific drawings and calculations stamped and signed by a California-licensed civil or structural engineer.

Job Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor/Installer: \_\_\_\_\_ License # & Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_