

Skoolie Adventure Bus Installation Manual

This complete power system charges a substantial AGM battery bank with three different sources: solar, alternator and shore power. The DC output passes through a protection system to prevent overly discharging the battery bank, and can easily power LEDs, fans and cell phone chargers. On the AC side, shore power can go directly to the outlets when plugged in or power can be inverted from the batteries to cover loads like a blender, microwave or coffee pot.



SKOOLIE: Ad	venture Bus	Rev.20
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General Guidelines and Tips

Congratulations on your purchase of a power system designed by AM Solar! We have assembled this kit to take the guess work out of putting together a complete solar solution. Now the fun begins - It's time for installation. Please read the guidelines below to help ensure a smooth project completion.

Stay safe

Remember that you will be working with both AC and DC power, so whenever possible avoid working with "live" components. Always use caution when working with electricity. When this guide is followed, you'll have a safe and successful installation. Be careful, not frightful - The installation can be fun when following these instructions and not cutting corners.

Keeping a realistic time frame for installation is important

This installation might take 4 to 5 days for an experienced AM Solar technician. So, establishing a realistic goal for completing the installation is helpful and avoids rushing aspects of the project. You'll want to stay consistent with your work beginning to end, without the need to rush.

Don't rush the layout and planning of component placement

The design/layout part of your build is the most important thing you'll do. Skoolies, by design, are great since they start empty and give you many different installation options. Grab some chalk, cardboard, rope and a ball of string - We're going to make some component placement templates. Use chalk to outline spots for smaller items such as breakers and the fuse panel. Use the string to make the small wire runs, rope for heavy gauge, and label them (tape and stickers works well). Then layout the all the components that fit the interior of your rig to prepare for installation.

Keep it organized

Stay organized by making your work tidy and well planned. Read the included product guides / instructions and **ABC** (Always Be Checking). If you are installing and find that something was missed during your layout and planning and can't be installed correctly or safely, don't worry! Just backtrack to that stage in your layout design, and find an alternative placement before moving forward.

Making it last

No matter how long you plan on keeping this kit, it's only going to be useful and have value if it's in good order. This equipment doesn't react well to neglect or abuse. When planning and performing the installation, use proper technique and plan for the long run. Using duck tape to secure a part in place might be a good emergency fix, but you'll want to start as "clean" as possible from the beginning.

Component Proximity

Always keep high current lines as short as possible. The battery to inverter cable should be under 10 feet, 5 feet would be ideal. If you are mounting all the equipment in a very small area, be aware of the distance between all "connection points" - If a component comes loose and shifts for any reason, you will want to ensure it will not result in components touching each other and possibly causing a short.











Here is a list of some of the tools that might be needed for your installation. If you feel this list is too ambiguous or potentially intimidating, now would be a great time to schedule your installation work with the professionals at AM Solar.

- Sturdy Ladder
- Hammer Crimper
- Hammer
- Heat Gun
- Wire Crimper
- · Wire stripper
- Cable Cutter
- Multimeter
- Screwdriver
- Smartphone
- Drill
- Box knife
- 91% Isopropyl Alcohol
- Cleaning rags
- Crescent wrench
- Safety glasses













Bill Of Materials

QTY AMS PN

NOTE: If you are having problems finding any components on the AM Solar website, type the "AMS PN" from the list below into the search bar in the middle of the homepage to pull up the picture and description of the applicable part/kit.



26.70 kr	





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	4	SOLAR-ZS170	Solar Panel Z170
	4	91M-35MZ	Mount Set - 35mm Zamp
	4	92C-PREP	Panel Prep Kit
	60	CABLE-10GA-2-GRY	Duplex-10/2
	4	92C-ROOF	Roof Wire Hamess Acc. Kit
σ	1	20-ROOF	Roof Combiner Box
Ž,	2	SEAL-SKF	Sikaflex 221
¥ I	1	CCTLR-VT-MPPS-050A	Victron SmartSolar MPPT 100/50 (50A)
Ξ	30	CABLE-4GA-2-GRY	Duplex-4/2
AR.	1	92C-INTR	Interior Wire Harness Acc. Kit
5	1	93B-060A	60 Amp DC Brkr. w/Screws
S	4	LUG-4GA-RING-3/8	4 ga. Lug-3/8" Ring
	4.5	HS-RED-HD-1/2	Heat Shrink 1/2" Red (cut into 3pcs)
	1.5	HS-BLK-DWALL-1/2	Heat Shrink 1/2" Black
	1	93S-MINI	Switch-Mini On/Off w/Screws
	2	LUG-4GA-RING-3/8	4 ga. Lug-3/8" Ring
	3	HS-RED-HD-1/2	Heat Shrink 1/2" Red
	1	MONITOR-VTBMV-S	Victron Battery Monitor BMV-712 Smart
ž	1	TEMP-VTBMV	Victron Temperature sensor for BMV-700 series
B	2	BATTAGM-06-400AH	AGM-GPL-L16 6V 400Ah
RV	4	LUG-4/0-RING-3/8	4/0 Lug-3/8" Ring
ËΙ	3	93H-B3/4	Heat Shrink Black 1.5" x 3/4"
B	1	93H-R3/4	Heat Shrink Red 1.5" x 3/4"
	2	CABLE-4/0-1-BLK	Cable-4/0
	1	RELAY-VTCX	(AGM 230A) Victron Cyrix-ct 12/24V-230 Intelligent battery cmb
	9	LUG-2/0-RING-3/8	2/0 Lug-3/8" Ring
	6	93H-R3/4	Heat Shrink Red 1.5" x 3/4"
	2	93H-B3/4	Heat Shrink Black 1.5" x 3/4"
	35	CABLE-2/0-1-BLK	Cable-2/0
2	40	CABLE-18GA-1-RED	18 ga. Red Wire
2	20	CABLE-18GA-1-BLK	18 ga. Black Wire
Ŧ	1	LUG-18GA-RING-BR	18-22 ga. Ring-Bare
S	1	HS-BLK-DWALL-1/8	Heat Shrink 1/8" Black
2	1	SPLICE-14-BUTT-SD	14-16 ga. Butt Step-Down
N I	2	SPLICE-18-BUTT-HS	18-22 ga. Butt-HS
Ĕ	1	FUSEHLDR-MINI	Mini Fuse Holder & Cap
F	2	FUSE-MINI-005A	Mini Fuse-5 Amp
	1	LUG-10GA-RING-HS	10-12 ga. Ring-H.S.
	1	93B-200A	200 Amp DC Brkr. w/Screws
	1	SWITCH-ESSCLD	Essential black momentary switch
	1	PLATE-MOM	Faceplate for Momentary Switch
	4	FSTSCW-612	Screw-#6x1/2" PHP BLK OX

Description

	1 INV-VT-2000	MultiPlus C 12/2000/80-50 - 120V Inverter/Charger combi.
	1 MONITOR-VTDM	Digital M. Contr.200/200A GX
	1 CABLE-VT-RJ45-5	RJ45 UTP Cable 5 m
	8 LUG-4/0-RING-3/8	4/0 Lug-3/8" Ring
	12 CABLE-4/0-1-BLK	Cable-4/0
	6 93H-R3/4	Heat Shrink Red 1.5" x 3/4"
	2 93H-B3/4	Heat Shrink Black 1.5" x 3/4"
	1 95F-CLST-300A	300A Class T Fuse & Holder
	1 FUSE-CLST-300A	Spare 300 Amp Fuse
	1 WIRETIE-05	Wire Tie 5-7/8"
5	1 935-MINI	Switch-Mini On/OFF with Screws
Ē	25 CABLE-10GA-3-GRY	Stranded 10/3
õ	2 SPLICE-12-CEC	10-12 ga. Closed End Crimp
18	1 BRKR-AC-BRKR-15/15	AC Breaker 15A/15A
P	1 BRKR-AC-BRKR-15/20	AC Breaker 15A/20A
S I	1 BRKR-AC-BRKR-30/15	AC Breaker 30A/15A
¥	1 CORD-30A-25-L	Shore Power Cord, 30A, 25' Locking
	1 OUTLET-30A-B	Power Outlet - 30A - Black
	1 BOX-MSB	Midnite Solar Baby DIN Mnt Box
	1 BOX-SGSB	Sngl Gang Shallow flush (old work box)
	1 BRKR-AC-DIN-277V/30	277VAC/30A DIN Mnt Breaker
	1 BOX-SPBS	Sub Panel Brkr. Box-Surface
	1 STRN-S-11/4	Strain Relief 1-1/4"
	2 STRN-S-3/4	Strain Relief 3/4"
	20 CABLE-14GA-2-WHT	Romex-14-2
	1 OUTLET-15125	15A/125V Outlet
	1 OUTLET-DPLX	Duplex Outlet Cover (WHT)
	15 CABLE-6GA-2-GRY	Duplex-6/2
	1 FUSEHLDR-MULT	ST Fuse Block 6 Circuit
	1 BRKR-DC-BRKR-060A	60A DC Circuit Breaker
	1 RELAY-VTSMBP65	Batt Protect, Smart 12/24-65A
	1 SWITCH-WALL	12V Wall Switch, Chrm
ŝ	2 FSTSCW-612-SS	Screw-#6x1/2" PHP SS
B	4 FSTSCW-834B	Screw-#8x3/4 OHP BLK OX
È	2 LUG-18GA-FAST-F	Female Fast-on 18 ga.
2	15 CABLE-18GA-2-GRY	Duplex-18/2
5	6 LUG-6GA-RING-3/8	6 ga. Lug-3/8" Ring
S I	2 LUG-6GA-RING-1/4	6 ga. Lug-1/4" Ring
-	2 LUG-10GA-SPD-8	10-12 ga. #8 Block Spade-Bare
	1 OUTLET-12USB	12V/USB Outlet
	10 CABLE-10GA-2-WHT	Duplex-10/2 600V
	6 HS-RED-DWALL-1/2	Heat Shrink 1/2" Red
	2 HS-BLK-DWALL-1/2	Heat Shrink 1/2" Black (2x 1"pcs)
	A LUG-10GA-DISC-E	Formale Disconnect 10 ga



INV-VT-2000



WONTON-VIDM







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Battery Bank

The battery bank is the heart of the system. It's components usually take up the most space and all other subsystems connect to it. That's why we recommend installing it first. This battery bank consists of two 400Ah 6V batteries and a battery monitoring system. By connecting the two batteries in series the voltage sums and you end up with a 400Ah 12V battery bank. The Bluetooth battery monitor reads all charging and discharging current through a shunt and is able to interpret that data to compute battery usage, remaining energy, percent charge, etc. When a shunt is used, the load side of the shunt becomes the new negative battery terminal and no negatives will connect to the actual battery.

1. **Mount the batteries** securely in a custom made cabinet, or use straps. They are very heavy and not something you want tumbling around during a wreck. Weight distribution and maintaining balance may also be a concern for your installation.

2. **Mount the shunt** and connect the battery side (polarity matters) to the negative terminal of the most negative battery using heavy cable.

3. **Mount the display** in a convenient place and connect it to the shunt with the communication cable. This can be mounted on a wall or hidden away. Since the display communicates over Bluetooth, you don't actually need to interact with it.

4. **Connect the temperature sensor.** The temperature sensor also serves as the positive leg to power the battery monitor, therefore it must be connected to the positive terminal of the most positive battery.

5. Check the connections to make sure they are correct and tight.

6. **Series connect the batteries** by running a heavy cable from the positive of the most negative battery to the negative of the most positive battery. Ideally, this cable is as short as possible, but it is possible to use a longer cable and separate the batteries.

7. **Test the system** by checking that the battery monitor display is working. You can skip ahead to the programming section of this manual to program the battery monitor at this time.





Solar Charging

This solar charging kit uses individually fused solar panels, connected in parallel inside a combiner box to optimize partial shade performance. The output of the combiner box is routed to a master disconnect switch, then to an MPPT charge controller with Bluetooth programming and monitoring. The output of the charge controller is protected by a resettable breaker and fed onto the battery bank.

1. **Plan the placement of the components.** By using the cardboard boxes that the panels shipped in, you can strategize your optimum array layout and avoid shade from other roof-mounted obstructions. The combiner covers the roof penetration, so plan it's placement with the wire route to the battery bay in mind. The charge controller should be mounted adjacent to or inside the same enclosure as your battery bank for temperature sensing. If this isn't possible, contact AM Solar for a remote temp sensor.

2. **Prep the panels by installing the output cable.** In some cases your panels may come shipped already prepped. The DIY INSTRUCTIONS page on our website, or the link on the #1 QR Code to the left will provide detailed instructions.

3. Attach panel mounts according the video linked by the #2 QR Code to the left.

4. **Install the panels** according to the video linked by the #3 QR Code to the left. On a metal roof, penetrations are rarely required. Don't let any part of the panel overhang the leading edge of the roof.

5. **Install the combiner box** by following the video instructions linked by the #4 QR Code to the left. It's a good idea to check polarity before making any connections.

6. **Route the roof cable** from the combiner box, through the roof penetration down to the battery bay. Install the Master Disconnect switch with the switch in the OFF position and connect to the charge controller. It may be difficult to connect thick cables to the charge controller. If you have trouble, follow the #5 QR Code to a PDF diagram.

7. Connect to the batteries by routing a segment of remaining roof cable from the charge controller to the breaker to the battery bank.

8. Permanently mount components and verify all connections.

9. Activate your solar charger by turning on the breaker then the Master Disconnect switch. Skip ahead to the programming section of this manual to program the charge controller.



Solar Wiring Schematic





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ight on the MPPT, that is normal. Scan here for assistance.

230A Alternator Charging



Alternator Charging

The alternator charging kit uses a device called a Cyrix that interrupts the circuit connecting your starter battery and your house battery bank. When your vehicle isn't running, this connection will be open, to allow your two battery banks to sit at their separate resting voltages. When the ignition is started and the alternator starts sending current, the Cyrix will detect the higher voltage on the starter battery and close the connection between the battery banks. Since the alternator charge will be at a higher voltage than both battery banks, current will only be flowing into batteries from the alternator, not from one battery to another. The boost button overrides the alternator voltage sense of the Cyrix and manually connects the battery banks. This is fine for short periods of time and it is used in situations when your starter battery is dead and you need to use your house battery to start your ignition.

1. **Position components** so cable routes can be planned.

2. **Connect the 2ga cable** between either that starter battery positive, the positive output of the alternator, or some other attachment point with continuity to those two points. Make the connection to whatever position allows for the easiest cable route to your house battery bank. (Do not connect the cable to the house battery bank yet.)

3. **Install the DC breaker** along the 2ga cable in an easily accessible location near the house battery. Polarity is important, meaning that the LOAD post of the breaker should go to the house battery bank, matching the diagram. Keep the breaker in the OFF position for now.

4. Install the Cyrix between the alternator/starter battery and the breaker. Plug in the pigtail.

5. **Install the boost button** in a location accessible from the driver's seat (you will be holding it while you turn your ignition key). Connect a red wire between one lead of the boost button (polarity doesn't matter) and the red wire in the pigtail coming off the Cyrix.

- 6. **Connect a black wire** between the load side of the shunt and the black wire in the pigtail coming off the Cyrix.
- 7. **Install the fuse holder** (with the fuse removed) onto the positive battery terminal, and splice a red wire on the other end of the fuse holder. Connect the other end of that red wire to the remaining lead on the boost button.

8. **Activate the system** by checking that all the connections are correct and tight, permanently mounting components, installing the fuse and turning ON the breaker.

9. **Test the system** by turning on the ignition and verifying with the battery monitor that current is flowing into the house battery bank. Then, turn off the system and push the boost button for a couple seconds to see current flowing out of the house battery.



Alternator Charging Schematic



AC Input/Output



AC Input & Output

The AC Input/Output system is capable of plugging into a standard 30A shore power outlet. (Note: Adapters from 30A to 15A outlets can be purchased at hardware or RV supply stores). The shore power charges the battery bank and can also be passed through the inverter to the AC loads. If the loads draw more current than the shore power connection can provide, the inverter can meet the demand up to the rating of the inverter by simultaneously drawing from the battery bank. When not plugged into shore power, the inverter will draw from the battery bank to power the AC loads. When not in use, save energy by turning off the inverter via Digital Multicontrol included in the kit.

1. **Position the components** prior to connecting the cables. The cable run from the battery bank to the inverter has the potential for the highest current in the entire system, therefor it is important to keep these cable run as short as possible, ideally less than 5'.

2. **Install the AC Input cable** from the shore power inlet to the Main AC Panel with the breaker (in the OFF position) to the inverter. Be sure to use the strain reliefs around the cable.

3. **Install the AC Sub Panel** with its three duplex breakers and connect the AC outlet. Additional outlets and AC loads can be connected to the panel. Be sure the current rating of the load is less than the rating of the breaker it is connected to. Make sure all the breakers are in the OFF position.

4. **Install the Digital Multicontrol** in an easily accessible location since it will be used frequently to adjust charger settings and turn ON or OFF the inverter.

5. **Connect to the battery bank** with the master disconnect switch in the OFF position. Make sure the Class-T fuse is between the master disconnect switch and the positive terminal of the most positive battery. Secure your spare fuse nearby with a zip tie. Connect the temperature sensor to the battery negative.

- 6. Verify Connections, check polarity, tighten terminals and permanently secure all components.
- 7. Activate the system by turning on all the breakers and the Digital Multicontrol.
- 8. **Proceed with programming** the Smart BP65 per our guide.





DC 12v Distribution

Rev.20190904

DC Distribution

A Victron Smart Battery Protect 65 (BP65) monitors the voltage of the house battery bank and disconnects the DC fuse block when the battery voltage gets low. This protects the battery bank from being accidentally over-discharged when a load like a light or fan are left on too long. The BP65 can be manually opened with a remote switch which serves as a master disconnect for all DC loads (a convenient feature for safely storing your vehicle for extended periods of time). The BP65 and cable to the six position fuse block are protected by a 60A resettable DC breaker. One DC outlet with dual USB and standard 12V is included. Additional outlets can be connected to the fuse block or wired in parallel to the existing outlet.

- 1. **Position the components** so cable routes can be planned. The BP65 should be within about 12" of the shunt.
- 2. Install the negative cable from the load side of the shunt to the negative post of the DC fuse block.
- 3. **Connect the positive cable** from the positive side of the DC fuse block to the LOAD post of the breaker. Turn the breaker to the OFF position.

4. **Install the outlet** and connect it to the fuse block. A parallel connection between the two sets of outlet posts will have to be made by fitting two sets of cable into a positive and a negative female spade lug.

5. Install the positive cable from the breaker LINE post to the OUT post of the BP65.

6. **Connect the black cable** that comes with the BP65 from the load side of the shunt to the center position on the BP65 three position green terminal block.

- 7. Connect the switch to the BP65 with the 18ga duplex cable. Polarity doesn't matter.
- 8. **Install the red cable** between the BP65 IN post and the positive terminal of the most positive battery.
- 9. Verify the connections to make sure that they are correct and tight.
- 10. Remove the black jumper wire that bridges the remote ports.

11. Activate the system by turning the DC breaker to ON. This would be a good time to program the BP65. If the DC loads do not work, toggle the DC load master switch.







Programming / Commissioning Your System - The Smart BP-65 Battery Protection

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Settings

Battery voltage

Preset

Shut down

Restart

Mode

Operation

Alarm output

Active

Under Voltage settings

Load disconnect & alarm settings

BatteryProtect HQ1908FMEVS

12.73V

Battery status

😱 Load output 🔳

4. Select the gear icon

- 1. Supply 12V power to the BP (+ to IN post, - to GND pin).
- Open VictronConnect and select the Battery Protect. 2.
- 3. The first screen has a switch to manually toggle the relay.
- Click the gear in the top right to enter Settings. 4.
- Select "user defined" from the Preset menu. 5.
- 6. Enter the following values:

Shut down: 10.6v

Restart: 12.1v

SmartLithium HQ1826BCFRC

SmartLithium H01703NS9BM

SmartLithium HQ1703AU3XE

SmartLithium H017030J3BE

SmartLithium H01826I7V07

BatteryProtect HQ1908FMEVS

7. Mode: Leave on "B"

Device list

12V/150Ah

12V/160Ab

12V/160Ah

12V/160Ah

12V/150AF

V4 Lithium

BMV-712 Smar

12V/24V 220A

BSC IP65 12/7 IP651217

BSC IP65 12|15

8. Alarm output: Select "Relay" from the menu.



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12V

User defined

0.10.50V/12.00V

1.10.00V/11.50V

2.9.50V / 11.50V

3.11.25V / 13.25V

4.11.50V / 13.80V

5.10.50V / 12.80V

6.11.50V/12.80V

7.11.80V/12.80V

8.12.00V / 13.00V



the guide for the non-smart BP.

imes Settings	🙃 ± <	: ×	Settings	8 ± <	:
Battery voltage	12V	▼ Batte	ry voltage	12V	•
Under Voltage settings		Under	Voltage settings		
Preset	User defined		et	User defined	•
Shut down		11.50V Shut	down		11.5 0 V
Restart		12.10V Resta	art		12. 10 V
Load disconnect & alarm setting	js	Load o	disconnect & alarm setti	ings	
Mode	A. Buzzer/LED m	ode Mode	3	в	•
Operation	B. Relay mode	Opera	ation	Normal	•
Alarm output	C. Li-Ion mode	Alarm	n output	Relay	
7. Mode should be se	t to "Relay mod	de"		Buzzer/LED	

8. Alarm output: Select "Relay"

5. Select "User defined" from the Preset menu



NOTE: These setting were chosen on the conservative side, but can be adjusted depending on your needs. Do not lower the shut down voltage until you are very familiar with your system, since dropping below 12v may result in battery degredation.

2. Select BatteryProtect from VictronConnect

If your battery protect shuts down your loads, it's important you recharge your batteries up to a full charge as soon as possible.

Programming: The Battery Monitor



Programming Your BMV-712 Smart Battery Monitor for AGM Batteries

victron energ 1280 õ8õ

Program Settings for AGM Batteries

Battery Capacity: Enter the total battery capacity in Amp Hours.

- Charged Voltage: 14.1
- Tail Current: 2%
- Peukert Exponent: 1.12
- Charge Efficiency Factor: 97%
- Aux Input: "Temperature"
- Temperature Unit: "Celsius" or "Fahrenheit"

Programming on the BMV-712 Battery Monitor in the Victron **Connect App:**

- 1. Download "VictronConnect" from the Google Play Store (picture 1).
- Turn on your Phone's Bluetooth, and get as close as possible to your Victron 2. Component(s).
- 3. Open the Victron Connect app, and after it takes a moment to scan it will recognize your BMV-712.

NOTE: If your device is not shown, it is probably signal interference. Try closing the app and moving to a different location before re-entering the app in a location that can pick up the BMV's signal.

- Select the BMV-712 on the Device List (picture 2). 4.
- Press the gear icon in the top right corner (picture 3). 5.
- Enter "Battery" and change the values to match the colored box at the top right 6. (screen shown on picture 4):
- 7. Changing Battery Capacity: Enter the number of Ah of your entire battery bank
- Charged Voltage: 14.1 8.
- 9. Tail Current: 2%
- 10. Peukert Exponent: 1.12
- 11. Charge Efficiency Factor: 97%
- Go back to Settings, enter "Misc"
- 13. Enter "Relay"
- 14. Change Low SOC relay to 50/50
- 15. Aux Input: Select "Temperature"
- 16. Temperature Unit: Select "Fahrenheit"
- 17. Exit from settings, you have completed programming.

NOTE: Only one phone can be connected to each device at a time. Be sure to completely disconnect and close the app to log out.

NOTE: To change the PIN code from the app, go back to the device list page in the app. Click on the three circles to the right of your device, and select "Reset PIN code".





400Ah

14.17

2.00%

3m

1.10

97%

0.104

3m

4

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MPPT 75 | 15 8

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Charge Control Settings for AGM Batteries:

- 1. Download the "VictronConnect" App to your phone.
- 2. Open the App.
- 3. You'll see a selection for your SmartSolar MPPT Charger, select it.
- 4. Type **000000** to login for the first time.

NOTE: To change the PIN code, go back one step to the main screen. Click on the 3 buttons to the right of the controller image, and select "Reset PIN Code".

- 5. Click on the gear in the top right corner.
- 6. Click on "Battery".
- 7. Click on the settings and adjust them accordingly to match below:
 - Battery voltage: 12V
 - Max charge current: 15A (In this example)
 - Use default charge settings: OFF
 - Charger: ON
 - Absorption voltage: 14.40 V
 - Absorption Time Limit: 02:00
 - Float voltage: 13.30 V
 - Equalization voltage: 15.20 V
 - Auto Equalization: DISABLE (OFF)
 - Temperature Compensation: ON
 - Temperature Compensation: -20.00



Absorption Voltage	14.40V
Absorption Time limit	2:00
Float Voltage	13.30V
Equalization Voltage	15.20V
Auto Equalization	OFF
Temperature Compensation	ON
Temperature Compensation	-20.00mV/°C