



Planning

- What is your average energy usage per day (in kWh)?

This information should be listed on your electricity bill. Where possible, try and calculate the average for the whole year so that you can account for seasonal changes in your demand for electricity. This figure will help you decide on how much power you want from a solar panel setup.

- Will you use a battery backup system? Yes No

Installing a battery storage system will allow you to store energy you generate and continue to use it even when the sun goes down, or during a blackout.

- Have you checked what sorts of feed-in tariff you are eligible for? Yes No

The feed-in tariff you're eligible for will depend on the state you live in, and will have a big impact on the amount of time it will take your solar panels to pay for themselves.

- Have you calculated your solar panel payback time? Yes No

Your calculations should account for rebates and feed-in tariffs, the cost of your setup, the generating capacity of the panels, daily power consumption, replacement parts (e.g. inverter) and the ongoing prices of electricity.

- Have you sought approval for your installation from the body corporate? Yes No

- Have you sought approval for your installation from the local council?

- Do you have a north-facing surface on your roof? Yes No

- Does the north-facing surface of your roof sit at an angle between 20-40° from horizontal? Yes No

- Is your roof strong enough to bear the weight of solar panels? Yes No

- Do you have a sheltered area where a DC to AC inverter and battery bank can be installed? Yes No

- Is the area where you intend to install solar panels (on your roof or otherwise) shaded by nearby trees or buildings? Yes No

Installation

- Has the setup you're looking at got a comparatively good warranty? Yes No

- Has the company you're looking at got an established track record? Yes No

- Does the setup you're looking at fulfill your power generation needs? Yes No

- Are the installers and designers accredited by the Clean Energy Council? Yes No

The designers and installers of your solar panel setup MUST be accredited by the Clean Energy Council in order for you to claim government rebates. Ask to see accreditation cards.

- Is all the hardware you're looking at compliant with Australian Standard AS 4777? Yes No

Any solar hardware you intend to connect to the grid must be compliant with this standard.





Post-installation care / paperwork

- Has your installer (or a licensed electrician) provided you with a certificate of electrical safety for the installation? Yes No
- Do you have written confirmation from the power distributor that the necessary paperwork (normally a solar connection form, safety certificate and electrical works request) has definitely been received and processed? Yes No

Miscommunications and careless handling of paperwork often lead to costly delays in getting feed-in credits up and running.

- Has the installer provided any advice on the maintenance and care of your solar panels? Yes No

