

Solar-Ready Build Checklist

The decisions to lock in while the project is still on paper. Most solar problems on new builds aren't hard solar problems; they are decisions that were made too late.

Current as at September 2026

Roof and array

- ☐ **Usable roof zones identified** on the roof plan (north, east and west faces), with realistic panel areas.
- ☐ **Vents, flues, skylights and penetrations** kept out of the likely array zones where possible.
- ☐ **Shading checked:** chimneys, parapets, trees, neighbouring buildings and future builds.
- ☐ **Roof structure and fixing** for the array load discussed with the engineer where required.
- ☐ **Roofing material and pitch** confirmed as suitable for common mounting systems.

Equipment locations

- ☐ **Inverter location** agreed: accessible, ventilated, protected from weather and direct sun where possible.
- ☐ **Battery location** agreed with the installer early. Battery siting has specific requirements (AS/NZS 5139), so check before the plans are fixed.
- ☐ **Clear wall space and access** kept for inverter, battery, isolators and future equipment.
- ☐ **Monitoring:** Wi-Fi or data connection available at the inverter location.

Switchboard and electrical

- ☐ **Spare switchboard space** allowed for PV, battery and EV protection devices.
- ☐ **Main switchboard and meter location** works with the inverter and battery location (short, simple cable runs).
- ☐ **Electrician involved** in the provisions, so the rough-in matches what the installer will need.

Cable and conduit pathways

- ☐ **Conduit from roof space to inverter** location, with a draw wire, sized with spare capacity.
- ☐ **Conduit from inverter to switchboard** and to the battery location.
- ☐ **No external conduit runs** on visible elevations unless agreed.
- ☐ **Provisions recorded** on the as-built drawings for the owner and future installer.

EV, network and future-proofing

- ☐ **EV charging provision:** dedicated circuit or conduit to the garage or parking space.
- ☐ **Network and export:** the installer checks export limits and connection capacity with the lines company early.

- ☐ **Future expansion:** roof space and board space left for more panels or a battery later.
- ☐ **Owner handover:** what was provided, where it is and what is still to come.

This checklist is solar integration guidance. It is not structural engineering, architectural certification or a producer statement, and it doesn't replace project-specific engineering or the installer's system design.

Want a second set of eyes on the plans?

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