

Solar Power Buyer's Checklist

(New South Wales)

The cost of installing a solar power system can vary significantly and we recommend you obtain several quotes from different suppliers. This checklist can be used to help you compare quotes between different suppliers and outlines the main considerations and questions you should ask your solar power supplier/ installer before going ahead with your purchase. To find out more about solar power for your home call **13 15 35**.

Installation

1	<p>Does your solar installer have Clean Energy Council accreditation?</p> <p>(IMPORTANT NOTE: To be eligible for the NSW Solar Bonus Scheme for a system installed after the 1 January 2010, the solar installer must have Grid-connect Design & Install accreditation from the Clean Energy Council at the time of installation)</p>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
2	<p>What size and type of solar system does your installer recommend for you, given your budget and roof space?</p> <p>(IMPORTANT NOTE: To be eligible for the NSW Solar Bonus Scheme your inverter must be rated at no more than 10kW)</p>kilowatts	
3	<p>Do you have enough unshaded north-facing roof to collect sufficient solar power?</p>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
4	<p>How will the panels be mounted on your roof and is the roof strong enough to support them?</p>		
5	<p>Where will the inverter be installed?</p>		
6	<p>Can your installer manage or assist in any Development Approval (DA) process required by the local council?</p>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
7	<p>Will your installer organise all the electrical work including metering and switchboard modification?</p>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
8	<p>Will your installer organise all the necessary paperwork, specific to electricity network rules and regulations?</p>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
9	<p>What type of metering system will be installed?</p> <p>(IMPORTANT NOTE: EnergyAustralia's network policy is that all new and replacement meters measure electricity usage throughout the day at half-hour intervals. Ask your electricity retailer about what pricing options are available after you have your metering changed. If you are eligible for the NSW Solar Bonus Scheme, you will maximise your Solar Bonus by having a GROSS meter installed)</p>	GROSS <input type="checkbox"/>	NET <input type="checkbox"/>

Solar System Components

10	Solar panel details:	Manufacturer	Power Rating of Panels watts
		Model No.	Number of Panels
11	Inverter details:	Manufacturer	Inverter Capacity kilowatts
		Model No.	(IMPORTANT NOTE: To be eligible for the NSW Solar Bonus Scheme your inverter must be rated at no more than 10kW)
12	Are the solar panels and inverter approved to the relevant Australian Standards? (AS4777 for the inverter and AS5033 for the solar panels)		YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
13	What is the length of warranty on the:	Solar Panels years	Mounting Frame years
		Inverter years	Workmanship years
14	Does the system come with an in-house monitor/software?		YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

System Cost and Financial Benefit

15	Approximately how much energy will the system generate each year? kilowatt-hours
16	What is the estimated annual financial benefit from the electricity generated by your solar power system? (IMPORTANT NOTE: Eligible solar power systems for the NSW Solar Bonus Scheme, receive 60 cents/kWh for GROSS metered solar power systems, and if EnergyAustralia is also your electricity retailer, an additional 6 cents/kWh is also offered)	\$
17	Can your installer help you apply for any government rebates (Solar Credits Scheme)? (IMPORTANT NOTE: The Federal Government's Solar Credits Scheme allows customers to create Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) for their installed solar power systems. The financial value of the RECs is generally offered by solar suppliers as an upfront discount on the installed solar system price)	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
18	What is the full price of the system (including the frame, panels, inverter, metering, installation, inspections and approvals) before rebates?	\$
19	What is the estimated full price after rebates?	\$
20	What is the estimated simple payback time for installing the solar power system? (Divide the estimated full price after rebates by the annual financial benefit) years
21	What maintenance costs are likely over the life of the system, for example inverter replacement?	\$



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