

# YOUR HOW TO GUIDE For Installing Rooftop Solar

SAVE MONEY. PROTECT THE PLANET. POWER YOUR FUTURE.

## Why Go Rooftop Solar?



### Cheapest Power

**Save Money with Lower Energy Bills for Many Years**  
Produce your own free power during the day. Solar is Australia's cheapest source of delivered energy. Panels now have a 25 year warranty or more.

**Example: A 5-6kW system saves \$1,500 to \$2,000 annually. A 10kW system saves \$2,000 to \$5,000 annually. Save money as energy prices increase.**

**You also benefit from Government incentives**  
Federal Government small-scale technology certificates (STCs) provide a substantial upfront discount.



### Energy Independence and Resilience

With solar, you are less affected by price hikes. With a battery you can maintain power during local blackouts (if your system has backup capability).



### Property Value Increase

Homes with solar panels sell faster and at higher prices.  
**Example: Solar panels boost the value and sale price of a home value (Domain Sustainable Homes Report 2025).**



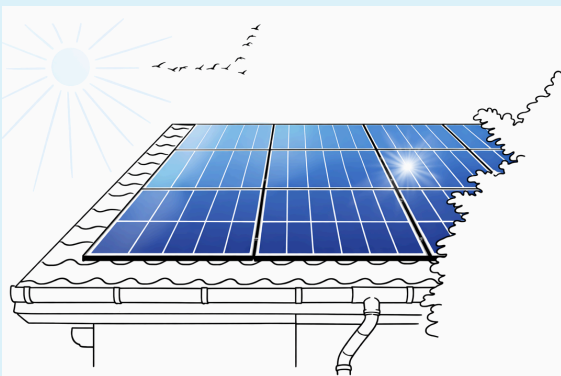
### Community Benefits

Installing solar and electrifying homes across Australia creates more local jobs.



### Better For The Environment Far Fewer Emissions

Generate clean electricity from the sun, rather than buying gas and coal which causes air and environmental pollution.



## Your Solar Installation Checklist



### What Size Do I Need?

#### Check Your Power Bills

Add up your summer and winter electricity use to estimate your yearly kWh.



### What Size Can I fit?

#### Estimate Your Roof Space

Check your roof size to estimate how many panels fit, and check roof direction for orientation. North-facing are 100% efficient. East and West-facing are 85% to 90% efficient but production starts earlier and continues for longer.



### Check Federal, State and Council Rebates and Incentives

#### Your Installer Handles the STCs

Visit [energy.gov.au](http://energy.gov.au), your state government's website and your Council's website.



### Get Quotes from Licensed Installers

Find reputable local installers. Ask friends and families who they used. Try [solarquotes.com.au](http://solarquotes.com.au) and [solarchoice.net.au](http://solarchoice.net.au).



### Compare Quotes and Choose Installer

Compare system sizes, brands, and price. Compare their advice, suggested panels and inverters, and warranties.



### Physical Installation, Safety Check, and Certificate of Compliance

Installation usually takes 1 day. This includes mounting the racking, installing the panels, and mounting the inverter and battery if selected. The installer tests the system, ensures wiring meets Australian Standards, and provides you with a compliance certificate.

#### References:

- [yourhome.gov.au/energy](http://yourhome.gov.au/energy)
- [energy.gov.au](http://energy.gov.au)
- [rewiringaustralia.org](http://rewiringaustralia.org)
- [solarchoice.net.au](http://solarchoice.net.au)
- [sunenergy.com.au/solar-panels-now-boost-home-value-by-over-23000-even-before-energy-bill-savings-kick-in/](http://sunenergy.com.au/solar-panels-now-boost-home-value-by-over-23000-even-before-energy-bill-savings-kick-in/)
- [esteemenergy.com.au/how-much-will-a-5kw-solar-system-save-me/](http://esteemenergy.com.au/how-much-will-a-5kw-solar-system-save-me/) <https://www.solarchoice.net.au/system-size/10kw-solar-system/>

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# YOUR HOW TO GUIDE

## For Installing a Home Battery

STORE YOUR SOLAR ENERGY. SAVE ON BILLS. POWER YOUR HOME.

### Why Choose a Home Battery? (You don't need solar!)



#### Lower Energy Bills - Beat the Peak

Batteries reduce expensive grid electricity use during peak times (5-9pm) when power prices are highest. **Example: Can reduce electricity bills by around \$700 per year.**



#### Maximised Self-Consumption and Long-Term Savings

Using your energy yourself is now worth nearly 10 times more than selling it back to earn feed-in tariffs. Households can save thousands of dollars over many years. **Example: Over 15 years, a 10-15kWh battery in an average home can save \$15,000 to \$17,000 (2025).**



#### Blackout Protection

##### Energy Independence and Resilience

Batteries allow you to control your energy use and provide a source of energy during blackouts. They support a more stable electricity grid. Homes with batteries have lower demand for grid power during peak hours, reducing reliance on gas and coal.



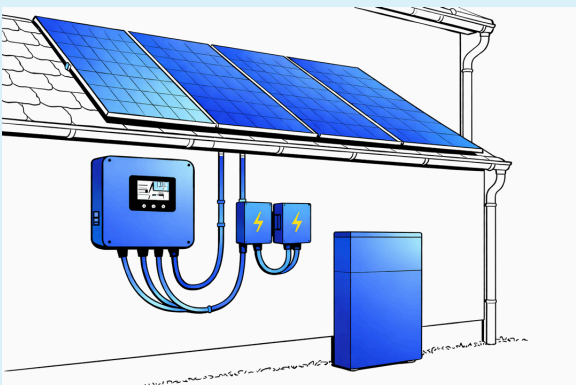
#### Better For The Environment

Using your own stored renewable energy reduces the demand for, and the use of, gas and coal powered electricity. It also reduces emissions and air pollution.



#### Virtual Power Plant

By allowing a provider to occasionally buy some of your stored energy to stabilise the grid, you can earn credits per year on top of your standard savings.



### Your Battery Installation Checklist



#### Research to Consider Battery Brand and Size

Look at your electricity bills to understand how much energy you use, especially during peak evening hours (5-9pm). Online solar calculators can provide estimates of suitable battery options. Choose a size that covers your evening energy needs and allows for future electric appliances and an electric car.



#### Check Compatibility

Ensure the solar panels and the inverter for new or existing solar panels are compatible with the battery system. Your installer will advise you.



#### Research Federal, State and Local Council Rebates and Incentives

Check what rebates, loans or incentives are available to reduce upfront costs.



#### Get Quotes from Approved Installers

Contact Solar Accreditation Australia (SAA) for approved installers. Ask friends and families who they used. Compare brands, sizes, warranties and costs.



#### Installation

##### Including Optional Blackout Protection

Installation usually takes 1 day. The battery is installed in a compliant location (e.g. a garage) and mounted to the wall or on a concrete floor pad per Australian safety standards. The electrician installs new circuit breakers and wires the battery into your switchboard. For blackout protection, an "essential loads" sub-board is set up to prioritise power to certain appliances.



#### Monitoring and Optimising

##### Including Asking Your Energy Retailer About Battery-Related Energy Plans

You'll be set up with a monitoring app (e.g. Tesla, SolarEdge, or Sungrow) to track your energy flow and battery health in real-time. Use monitoring apps and settings to maximise your savings and battery lifespan.

#### References:

- [yourhome.gov.au/energy](https://yourhome.gov.au/energy)
- [energy.gov.au](https://energy.gov.au)
- [rewiringaustralia.org](https://rewiringaustralia.org)

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# YOUR HOW TO GUIDE

## For Installing Home Heating and Cooling (Reverse Cycle Air Conditioning)

EFFICIENT COMFORT ALL YEAR ROUND. HEATING IN WINTER. COOLING IN SUMMER.

### Why Choose Reverse Cycle Air Conditioning?



#### Cheapest Running Costs To Heat Your Home

Reverse cycle systems are far cheaper to run compared to gas heating or electric heating and cooling systems.

**Example: Average running cost in 2025 for gas heating was \$1,040, electric resistive was \$1,400, and electric heat pump was \$360.**



#### Long-Term Savings

Reverse cycle systems deliver long-term savings.

**Example: Without solar, save around \$12,000 over 15 years compared to traditional gas or electric heaters. With solar, save around \$13,900 over 15 years.**



#### Heats And Cools In One System

One appliance or system provides both winter heating and summer cooling, you don't need multiple systems.



#### Uses Much Less Energy

Reverse cycle air conditioners are 3-4 times more efficient than gas heaters and 2-3 times more efficient than standard electric heaters.



#### Smart and Flexible Features

Timers and smart controls allow you to heat or cool your home when electricity is cheapest, especially during daytime solar production.



#### Better For Your Health and The Environment

Unlike gas heaters, reverse cycle systems produce no indoor air pollution and can reduce heating-related fossil fuel use by 40% or more.



### Your Reverse Cycle Installation Checklist



#### Identify Priority Rooms

Decide which rooms you want to heat and cool, e.g. living areas, bedrooms.



#### Choose the System Type

Split systems: cheaper, very efficient, ideal for individual rooms. Ducted systems: whole-home heating and cooling, less efficient, higher upfront costs.



#### Maximise the Impact of Your Reverse Cycle Air Conditioning By:

Sealing draughts, closing gaps, using curtains or blinds to keep warm (or cool) air in and cold (or hot) air out, and adding insulation to ceiling, under floor and walls.



#### Get Quotes From Licensed Installers

Find reputable local installers. Ask friends and families who they used. Ask for advice on type and size of the correct system for your home.



#### Check Electrical Capacity

Most homes don't need major upgrades but an electrician may need to add a dedicated circuit.



#### Install and Program Timers

Set timers to pre-heat or pre-cool your home during off-peak or solar hours.



#### Maintain for Best Performance

Clean filters regularly to keep the system running efficiently.

#### References:

- [yourhome.gov.au/energy](https://yourhome.gov.au/energy)
- [energy.gov.au](https://energy.gov.au)
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# YOUR HOW TO GUIDE

## For Installing a Hot Water Heat Pump

SAVE ENERGY. CUT BILLS. PROTECT ENVIRONMENT.

### Why Choose a Hot Water Heat Pump?



#### Cheapest Hot Water System For Running Costs

Heat pumps are the cheapest hot water systems to run. they can lower your hot water running costs by 60% to 80%. With solar, heat pumps are effectively free if using power from your system, compared to paying for gas.



#### Long-Term Savings

Heat pumps deliver long-term savings.  
**Example: Without solar, you save around \$5,500 to \$6,000 over 15 years compared to gas or electric resistance water heating. With solar, savings increase to around \$8,500 to \$9,000 over 15 years, for an average home.**



#### Extra Features

WIFI compatibility and timers help control household energy loads. Can be programed to heat water during the day, therefore use free solar energy instead of paying for grid electricity.



#### Energy Efficient

Heat pumps are roughly three to five times more efficient than standard electric storage systems, using 65–75% less energy than a standard system.



#### Better For The Environment Far Fewer Emissions

Significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions, especially when paired with rooftop solar.  
**Example: A gas hot water system's emissions are roughly double those of a hot water heat pump system. Heat pumps can reduce a home's carbon footprint by around 1.5 to 3 tonnes of CO2 per year.**



#### Low Maintenance & Long Lifespan

Heat pumps typically last 8-20 years and usually only need professional servicing every 3-4 years.



### Your Hot Water Heat Pump Installation Checklist



#### Choosing Your System

##### Considerations and Features

Review your hot water use. Consider tank size and shape, systems features, level of control via system or app, timing control (to run during solar hours), COP rating for energy efficiency, suitability for ambient temperature, recover rate (speed), warranty, compressor noise. Choose an environmentally friendly refrigerant.



#### Research Federal, State and Council Rebates and Incentives to Reduce Upfront Costs



#### Get Quotes From Licensed Installers

Choose the best system within your budget that is based on the considerations and features in #1 above. Select a licensed plumber who installs heat pump systems and is eligible to claim rebates.



#### Check Electrical Requirements

Heat pump systems usually need a dedicated circuit. Homes switching from gas may require an electrical upgrade.



#### Physical Installation, Safety Check, and Certificate of Compliance

Consider the tank and compressor location, usually side of home. The tank is mounted on a stable concrete slab/base. The plumber connects the water lines and installs a tempering valve (to prevent scalding) and a pressure temperature relief valve for safety. The installer provides the Certificate of Compliance.

#### References:

- [yourhome.gov.au/energy](https://yourhome.gov.au/energy)
- [energy.gov.au](https://energy.gov.au)
- [rewiringaustralia.org](https://rewiringaustralia.org)
- [brighte.com.au](https://brighte.com.au)
- [brighte.com.au/blog/gas-hot-water-vs-hot-water-heat-pumps-how-do-they-compare](https://brighte.com.au/blog/gas-hot-water-vs-hot-water-heat-pumps-how-do-they-compare)

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# YOUR HOW TO GUIDE

## For Installing Electric (Induction) Cooktops

COOK FASTER, CLEANER, CHEAPER.

### Why Choose an Induction Cooktop?



#### Cheapest Cooking Option

##### For Running Costs

Induction cooktops are the cheapest to use due to high efficiency, as 90% of heat reaches food. With solar, induction cooking is effectively free compared to gas.

**Example: Average running cost for gas in 2025 was \$360, electric resistive was \$100, and induction was \$90. Example: Electric resistive cooktop efficiency is 65-70%, gas cooktops is 32-44%.**



#### Easy To Clean

With a smooth, flat surface, it is easier to wipe down than a gas cooktop. Since the glass surface stays relatively cool, food spills don't bake onto the cooktop.



#### Faster Cooking

##### Speed and Precision

Induction is significantly faster than gas; temperature changes are instant. It also offers digital precision, allowing you to maintain the heat you want.



#### Better Indoor Air Quality, Better for Health and Environment

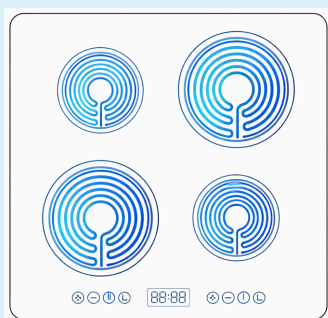
Induction does not involve burning gas so produces no indoor air pollution. This results in better air quality in your home, and is better for the environment. Asthma Australia research says gas cooktops contribute to approximately 12% of childhood asthma cases.



#### Safer To Use

##### No Naked Flames - Fewer Burns and Fires

The surface only heats when a pan is present and the cooktop cools quickly after use. This is safer than a naked gas flame and there is less risk of cooking burns or household fires.



### Your Induction Cooktop Installation Checklist



#### Decide on the Type of Cooktop

Portable induction: plugs into a power point, no installation required. Installed induction: built into the bench and hardwired by an electrician.



#### Measure Your Bench Space

Choose a cooktop the same size as your existing one to avoid modifying the benchtop.



#### Check Your Electrical Setup and Requirements

An electrician can confirm whether a new circuit or switchboard upgrade is needed.



#### Check Your Cookware

Induction works with pots with a magnetic base, including cast iron, steel and most stainless steel saucepans.



#### Get Quotes From Qualified Trades

Find reputable local installers. Ask friends and families who they used. Compare appliance cost, installation, and any electrical upgrades required.



#### Disconnect Gas (If Replacing Gas)

A licensed plumber is required to safely disconnect the gas supply, if you are switching from gas to electric.



#### Physical Installation, Safety Check and Electrical Safety Certificate

Installation takes less than 1 day. The electrician runs a heavy-duty cable from your switchboard to the kitchen, installs the cooktop and installs a mandatory isolation switch (on the wall or splashback) for emergency shut-off. The electrician issues a Certificate of Electrical Safety (CES).

#### References:

- [yourhome.gov.au/energy](https://yourhome.gov.au/energy)
- [energy.gov.au](https://energy.gov.au)
- [rewiringaustralia.org](https://rewiringaustralia.org)
- [climatechoices.act.gov.au/policy-programs/sustainable-household-scheme/buyers-guides/cooking-with-electricity-a-guide-to-electric-stove-tops](https://climatechoices.act.gov.au/policy-programs/sustainable-household-scheme/buyers-guides/cooking-with-electricity-a-guide-to-electric-stove-tops)

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