

# GOT QUESTIONS ABOUT BATTERY STORAGE SAFETY?

**We've got answers.**



The CSIRO and Clean Energy Council have prepared a guide for consumers and small businesses on the safe installation and use of household and small commercial battery storage systems.

Battery storage is becoming increasingly affordable for the average consumer, and with solar panels now generating power on roughly 1.5 million Australian rooftops, it could be a great option to manage your own power supply and use.

Battery storage does have its safety issues and risks. When used properly and well looked after battery storage is safe, but it's important to be aware of the relevant risks so they can be properly managed.

If you have already purchased battery storage or are giving it some serious thought, the Battery Storage Safety Consumer Guide answers a range of common safety questions on everything from how to seek out a qualified person to safely install your system, to storage, monitoring and recycling.

To view the guide as well as other information on how to install both solar and battery storage, visit [solaraccreditation.com.au/consumers](http://solaraccreditation.com.au/consumers)

**ARENA**



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# Battery storage safe installation and maintenance checklist

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- Know what type of battery storage system (i.e. battery chemistry, power and energy size) you are having installed. Different battery types have different requirements.
- Understand what you will be using your battery for, and the amount of energy available for your use (this is usually less than the manufacturer's rated total amount of energy labelled on the batteries).
- Monitor your system regularly (at least once a month) and ensure that you:
  - a.** have a system in place – for example, an appropriate battery monitoring system, a log book, and a visual and audible alarm
  - b.** know what to check for when doing a visual check or taking meter readings.
- Batteries do not perform well with sudden changes in ambient temperature, so they must be appropriately housed with adequate airflow. On extremely hot or cold days, you may need to do additional monitoring; ensure you have a system in place to remind you to do this.
- Ensure your batteries are not accessible to children, are vermin proofed and are separate to the living areas of the house. Do not store items on top of or lean items against your batteries or enclosures, because they could be a potential electrical fire risk. Consider installing signs to remind you of this.
- Ensure your batteries have the correct safety and warning signs for the battery type, and that you know how to follow their instructions (e.g. emergency shutdown procedure and emergency action plan).
- Keep manufacturer and installer and warranty information to refer to as needed, and use only accredited installers and professionals to alter the system.
- Revisit your whole system periodically and replace or upgrade components as required. Your accredited installer should be your first point of contact for maintenance. Keep the installer's contact details.