

Home Extension Checklist

Plan Your Home Extension with Confidence

Introduction

Planning a home extension can be exciting—but also complex. From budgeting and approvals to design and materials, there are many factors to consider. This checklist will help you stay organized, make informed decisions, and ensure your extension is a success.

1. Define Your Goals

- ☐ What do you want to achieve with the extension? (Extra bedrooms, kitchen, living space, etc.)
- ☐ Are you looking to add resale value or improve lifestyle functionality?
- ☐ Are you planning for short-term or long-term use?

2. Budget & Financing

- ☐ Set a realistic budget for the project
- ☐ Include contingency (10–15% for unexpected costs)
- ☐ Determine financing options (loan, savings, etc.)

- ☐ Research cost per square metre for similar extensions

3. Site & Planning Consideration

- ☐ Assess site dimensions, boundaries, and setbacks
- ☐ Check local council requirements for permits and planning overlays
- ☐ Identify potential heritage or zoning restrictions
- ☐ Consider impact on neighbours and surroundings

4. Design & Layout

- ☐ Choose extension type: single-storey, double-storey, rear, or side
- ☐ Decide on room layout and flow
- ☐ Consider natural light, ventilation, and privacy
- ☐ Plan for furniture, storage, and functional zones

5. Materials & Sustainability

- ☐ Select eco-friendly and durable materials
- ☐ Consider energy-efficient systems (insulation, windows, lighting)
- ☐ Evaluate long-term maintenance requirements
- ☐ Incorporate sustainable landscaping where possible

6. Timeline & Project Management

- ☐ Set realistic start and end dates
- ☐ Factor in council approval and permit timelines
- ☐ Schedule key milestones (demolition, construction, inspection)
- ☐ Hire reputable contractors, builders, or architects

7. Additional Tips

- ☐ Take photographs and measurements of existing space
- ☐ Keep a project folder for all documents and approvals
- ☐ Communicate regularly with your architect and builder
- ☐ Prepare for temporary disruption during construction

Use this checklist as a roadmap to plan your home extension efficiently and confidently.

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