

# Solar Installer Vetting Checklist

A practical checklist for homeowners comparing solar companies in the UK

Use this checklist before accepting a quotation. It helps you separate a genuine solar installer from a company that is only adding solar as a side service.

## 1. Accreditation & Compliance

- Is the company **MCS certified in its own name**?
- Are they registered with **NICEIC, NAPIT** or an equivalent electrical competent person scheme where relevant?
- Do they handle **G98 / G99** notification or applications themselves?
- Will you receive a **full handover pack** including certification and commissioning information?

## 2. Electrical Competence

- Is there a **qualified electrician** responsible for the electrical side of the project?
- Can they explain how the solar system connects into your **consumer unit** and existing installation?
- Have they allowed for **isolation, protection, surge protection and earthing** where required?
- Can they describe how the system will be tested and commissioned?

## 3. System Design

- Have they sized the system around **your usage**, not just the amount of roof space available?
- Can they explain the choice of **inverter** and, if relevant, **battery storage**?
- Have they considered **roof orientation, shading and likely generation**?
- Do they discuss future expansion, EV charging or changes in electricity use if relevant?

## 4. Roofing vs Solar Expertise

- Are they primarily a **solar installer** or mainly a roofer adding solar on the side?
- Can they explain the **mounting system** and how roof penetrations or fixings are managed?
- Do they understand practical quality points such as **panel spacing, rail alignment and correct clamp positions**?
- Who is responsible if there is a fault later: the roofer, the electrician or another subcontractor?

## 5. Handover & Aftercare

- Will you receive **equipment datasheets, operating guidance and warranty details**?

- Is the workmanship warranty clearly stated?
- Is there a named point of contact for **aftercare and fault support**?
- Can they tell you what happens if you later need service, maintenance or system changes?

## 6. Red Flags

- “We do the roofing and sort the electrics later.”
- “We work with an MCS partner” but cannot clearly explain who is responsible for certification.
- Heavy focus on **sales savings claims** with very little technical discussion.
- No clear answer on paperwork, DNO process or commissioning.
- Pressure selling, rushed decisions or unrealistic promises.

**Pro tip:** Solar is an **electrical system mounted on a roof**, not just a roofing product. A tidy-looking array is not proof of a competent installation.