



1 Roof Design/Orientation

South facing is ideal for solar, if you can build a single slope facing south you create the maximum amount of space for solar. Gable roof slopes are your next best roof design. Try to avoid cottage style roof slopes as they minimize your available roof slope. East/West facing roof slopes are still okay but will only produce at 78% compared to 100% for South facing orientation. You will then need to install more solar panels to cover the loss in production.

2 Roof Slope

The best roof slope for solar in Saskatchewan is 12/12, performing at 100%. That being said a 12/12 roof slope is steep and not walkable. This will increase your cost in labour to frame, shingle and install your solar panels. We recommend going with a 6/12 roof slope as this is the optimal roof slope before you are not able to walk freely on the roof. It will also produce at 96% of the solar panels rating.

3 Roof Penetrations/Location

Avoid putting roof vents, plumbing stacks, chimneys on the South, East, and West side of the roof. If you can always try to put them on the North side. If they have to go on the South side then try to group them as close to each as you can to maximize the space on the South facing slope. You should also try to put them as far as you can up the slope of the roof to minimize the shading effects as much as possible.

4 Neighbours/Shade

Try to keep in mind that other buildings will be going up around your new build. You will need to pay attention to those buildings specifically looking at the height of them and where they are placed compared to your build. If a 2 or 3 story home is being built on the south side of your 1 story bungalow the shadow casted will throw a lot of shade onto your solar panels reducing their efficiency drastically.

5 Trees/Shade

If you are planting trees we recommend planting them on the North side of your lot if possible. Trees can create a large amount of shadows that will also reduce your solar panel efficiency.