

CostGuide 2026

Market Summary Overview

Global fluctuations combining with local market forces are affecting building projects – large and small – and these challenges are best addressed by architects and their clients maintaining steadfast procedures to achieve well built outcomes. Well considered processes and material choices can craft buildings that address climate, cost control and quality. These measures can assist builders and trades to understand project scope.

Buying, Improving, Constructing – are the activities that keep people optimising their buildings. Houses and Business premises are becoming blurred – mixed use is becoming more common. Architects are facilitators in this evolution – guiding design efforts of client aspirations for living, working, studying and entertaining. Whether you are seeking to renovate or build new, our design services are a great way to improve your future.

Where possible, renovation and adaptation are in order – better the *devil of a house you know* than an uncertain path for redevelopment. Clients can choose the control of an architect driven process to achieve certainty.

Handy tips and notes are at the ready – visit our website – archicentreaustralia.com.au and call us on **1300 13 45 13** – for our experienced Design Architects to get you started with a sketch process – our Feasibility Design Report – for renovations and new homes.



REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

ROOFING & ROOF DRAINAGE

Up to two storeys: fixed to existing roof frame

Concrete tiled roof	\$65 to \$85/m ²
Terracotta tiled roof	\$105 to \$155/m ²
Slate tiled roof (traditional system)	\$390 to \$650/m ²
Fibreglass roof	\$48 to \$70/m ²
Polycarbonate roofing	\$88 to \$450/m ²
Steel roofing – standard to marine	\$60 to \$130/m ²
Sarking	\$11 to \$16/m ²

Guttering and Downpipes

- PVC (for each)	\$43 to \$72/Lm + painting if required
- Zinalume (for each)	\$43 to \$102/Lm
- Colorbond (for each)	\$49 to \$109/Lm
- Copper (for each)	\$138 to \$187/Lm
- Stainless steel (for each)	\$120 to \$215/m

Allow extra for: - Framing upgrade

ELECTRICAL

Replace switchboards	\$900 to \$3000
Safety switches	\$550 to \$1100
New light point	\$125 to \$150 each + cost of fitting
Add power points	\$125 to \$300 each
Add telephone points	\$105 to \$300 each
Rewire house	\$9,500 to \$24,000

Allow extra for: - Repairing adjoining finishes

PLASTERING

Plasterboard (including furring channels)	\$81 to \$98/m ²
Fibre cement linings (including furring channels as required)	\$70 to \$100/m ²
Hard plaster finish	\$102 to \$235/m ²
Patching of holes/openings not exceeding 0.5m ²	\$290 to \$540/m ²

Allow extra for: - Removal of existing plaster
- Decorative cornices, roses, mouldings etc.

MASONRY

Repointing face brick walls	\$13 to \$22/m ²
Infilling openings - brick veneer walls	\$375 to \$834/m ²
Infilling openings - double brick walls	\$568 to \$1,445/m ²

Allow extra for: - claddings, linings or finishes

TREE REMOVAL

Tree removal including mulching	\$1,500 to \$3,000/tree
Stump removal to below ground level	\$500 to \$1,000/stump

CONCRETE PAVING

80mm thick reinforced plain concrete path	\$90 to \$115/m ²
100mm thick reinforced plain concrete driveway	\$105 to \$125/m ²
- Extra over for coloured concrete	\$15 to \$27/m ²
- Extra over for exposed aggregate	\$40 to \$55/m ²
Cross-over to council requirements	\$4,500 to \$7,000 single car width \$7,800 to \$10,000 double car width

Allow extra for: - Decorative edging

DRAINAGE

90mm diameter stormwater pipe including trenching up to 900mm deep	\$90 to \$130/Lm
Stormwater pits & cover	\$560 to \$1,500/pit
Trench grates	\$320/Lm + (varies with trench size and cover type)
Agricultural pipe including trenching	\$45 to \$65/Lm

Allow extra for: - Repairs to paving or landscaping
- Boring under paving

DAMP PROOFING

Silicon injected damp-proof course (per Lm)	\$55 to \$85/Lm
Re-point mortar	\$13 to \$22/m ² brick wall
New air vents	\$55 to \$80 each

Allow extra for: - Washing brickwork and making good
- Repairs of adjoining surfaces

INSULATION

Reflective air cell	\$17 to \$22/m ²
Glasswool batts R1.5 to R6.0	\$14 to \$27/m ²
Polyester batts R2.5 to R4.0	\$25 to \$38/m ²
Polystyrene	\$19 to \$49/m ²
Wool R3.0 to R3.5	\$37 to \$52/m ²

Allow extra for: - access restrictions or reduced clearance
- removal/ reinstatement of linings

TILING

Wall	\$135/m ² for tiles - costing up to \$30/m ²
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Allow extra for: - \$100/m² for tiles costing up to \$90/m²

PLUMBING

Based on a 150m² house with reasonable access

Hot water service replacement	\$1,400 to \$4,200/house
Solar boosted hot water service	\$5,000 to \$16,000/house
Complete house re-plumbing	\$14,000 to \$24,000/house
Replace taps, shower rose, spouts	Fitting supply cost + \$50 to \$250 to install
Toilets, basins, sinks, laundry troughs, baths, showers	Fitting supply cost + \$150 to \$555 to install
Allow extra for:	- associated work (e.g. painting, tiling)

TERMITE TREATMENT

Based on a 150m² house with reasonable access

Dusting	\$1,000 to \$1,500/house
Chemical treatment	\$3,000 to \$6,000/house
Monitoring/baiting systems	\$3,500 to \$5,500/house
Drilling trees (cost per tree)	\$250 to \$600/tree

FENCING

Perimeter paling (1600mm to 1800mm high)	\$120 to \$170/Lm
Timber picket fence	\$135 to \$230/Lm
Tubular metal fence	\$205 to \$390/Lm
Brick fence, 1200mm high including footings	\$665 to \$950/Lm
Brick fence, 2100mm high including footings	\$1200 to \$1,450/Lm
Gates including hardware and finish	\$1100 to \$1350 single \$2250 to \$2950 double
Allow extra for:	- sloping sites

LEVELLING

Underpinning	\$1,500 to \$3,000/Lm
Allow extra for	- making good damaged surfaces - rocky foundations
Resin injection	\$990 to \$1,500/Lm
Allow extra for	- making good damaged surfaces - sandy soil

WINDOW REPLACEMENT

Awning/sliding windows, including hardware & finish	\$460 to \$1220/m ²
Double hung windows, including hardware & finish	\$925 to \$1,625/m ²
Skylights	\$720 to \$2,700 each
Allow extra for:	- blinds or window furnishings - repair of adjoining surfaces

FLOOR REPAIRS

Framing replacement/strengthening joists & bearers	\$48 to \$85/Lm
Particle board (yellow, red, blue)	\$45 to \$65/m ²
Plywood (15mm to 21mm thick)	\$47 to \$70/m ²
Tongue & groove flooring	\$180 to \$250/m ²
Allow extra for:	- sub floor access restrictions or excessive heights - floor finishes

FLOORING

Carpet	\$45 to \$165/m ² + underlay
Vinyl	\$70 to \$120/m ²
Timber Polishing	\$75 to 120/m ²
Tiles	\$135 for tiles costing up to \$30m ²
Allow extra for:	- \$100/m ² for tiles costing up to \$90/m ²

PAINTING

One undercoat, two finishing coats

Exterior timber – good condition	\$25 to \$60/m ²
Exterior timber – poor condition	\$45 to \$80/m ²
Interior – plaster/brick/timber	\$20 to \$40/m ²
Anti-graffiti shield	\$25 to \$36/m ²
Allow extra for:	- wall surface repairs - lead paint removal

RESTUMPING

Concrete stumps (to 1.0m above ground)	\$14,000 to \$19,000/house
Allow extra for:	- floors over 1.0m above ground - patching/painting and easing of doors/windows



RENOVATIONS & ADDITIONS

This part of the guide provides some typical costs for common renovation and addition projects. It assumes use of standard materials, fixtures and finishes.

ADDITIONS

1. The indicative square metre rates are for basic shell only and the extended roofline over the shell.
2. Prices assume good access to the site and relatively simple roof configuration.
3. Where the extension involves kitchens, bathrooms and laundries, you must add the wet area fitout costs to the total as these rooms need special fittings and fixtures.
4. Indicative costs do not include upgrading of services such as electrical, plumbing, heating or repairs and upgrades to parts of the existing house such as roof and gutter repairs, painting, damp, reblocking, and pest treatment. You may also need to allow for paving and landscaping upgrades including improved site drainage.

RENOVATIONS

Indicative costs assume that the rooms which are being renovated are in sound condition, needing no structural upgrades. Good access is assumed.

NEW CONSTRUCTIONS **\$2,700 to \$5,100/m²**

Including extensions to an existing building

Allow extra for:

- First floor additions (including stair, structural work to existing building, roof alteration)
- Adverse ground conditions
- Consequential work to existing building
- Professional fees associated with proposed works

RENOVATIONS **\$1,600 to \$3,900/m²**

Inside an existing building

Allow extra for:

- Hazardous material removal (e.g. asbestos filled cement sheet)
- Temporary accommodation and/or furniture storage

WET AREA FIT OUT

Bathroom / En-suite	\$17,500 to \$35,000
Kitchen	\$23,000 to \$49,000
Laundry	\$10,000 to \$19,000

Allow extra for: - White goods

WARNING ABOUT BUILDING PRICES

Building prices vary considerably depending on a number of factors such as:

- o Extent of documentation
- o Choice of materials
- o Individual builders/contractors selected
- o Extent of client involvement
- o Method of construction
- o Site accessibility
- o Size of job: larger works can achieve a better value price per square metre
- o Quality of job required, e.g. volume built home or custom built standard
- o Property location: regional areas may attract a premium

MORE ACCURATE PRICING IS AVAILABLE

1. An Archicentre Australia design feasibility report will include cost advice specific to your project.
2. Additional accuracy will be achieved once a design is developed, costed by an independent quantity surveyor, and taken to competitive tender - when actual prices are obtained. In many instances, cost can be saved and/or a better job achieved through an architect's rigorous preparation of tender documents and a review of tenders.

NOTE

The information provided here is general advice only. It has been prepared without taking into consideration project specifics, design requirements or quality needs. Before acting on this document, you should consider its appropriateness to your circumstances. If required, seek assistance of a quantity surveyor who can prepare a project specific cost plan to assist in establishing project scope and budget. Cost advice indicated here includes GST.

Architects Advisory Service

Take the first step...

- Renovations
- New home
- Home Improvements
- Property Development

Call **1300 13 45 13** now
and visit **archicentreaustralia.com.au**



DESIGN ARCHITECTS are ready to assist

Whether you're planning to renovate, new build, buy and repair an investment property or consider a property development – say a dual occupancy or multi townhouse development – we have fixed price “getting started” Design Services.....that hit the spot for you.

We will provide fresh, responsive and above all high quality design ideas taking into consideration your site, existing building, neighbourhood and budget. Often we assist with setting your budget. Designing for accessibility, your needs in aging, time honoured efforts of addressing passive solar and sustainable outcomes.....these are important matters.....it's not all about image!

Design Consultation

- Assess your Home's ability to respond to **Working From Home** provisions.
- A Design Consultation is there to assist when you don't know how to start, when you're not sure what to do or what options to consider. A meeting with one of our Design Architects can help you decide on the best course of action and give you confidence to proceed with a direction.

Renovation Sketch Feasibility

So you're planning a renovation – perhaps adding to your home – on the ground or as a second storey including alterations. The Renovation Sketch Feasibility is the perfect way to explore opportunities and options. Collaborating with one of our Design Architects can assist – exploring ideas to find the best option for your renovation strategy. A report and sketches, including possible opinions of cost, will provide the snapshot that gives you confidence to embark on an informed and independent process.

New Home or Property Development Sketch Feasibility

If you're thinking of a new home, dual occupancy or multi townhouse development a tailored Sketch Feasibility is an essential way to explore options for site planning and costs. Our Design Architects will meet, “kick the dirt” of your site and bring issues of lifestyle, needs, budget and the like into focus. You will end up with a “way to go” which can set the direction for ongoing and meaningful design efforts.

Archicentre Australia Architects are the way to go

By using Archicentre Australia for your feasibility design process, you are making use of our filter, where we match your needs with a Design Architect who will suit your circumstance.

Unlike many design professionals on offer, our Design Architects understand residential design and architecture – that's why you can rely on their knowledge from feasibility stage through to the completion of construction to guide the process of you interfacing with the building industry.

What sets our Design Architects apart from others is their day to day working knowledge of how to apply the latest techniques, details and materials for your benefit.

