

OUTDOOR LIVING AREA



Outdoor living areas such as an alfresco, deck, veranda or balcony, have been recognised as a concession to promote the pleasant aspects of Queensland's climate.

There is some evidence that suggests

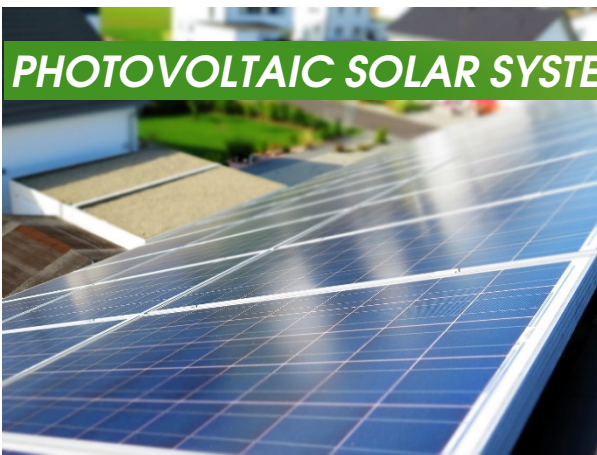
occupants tend to use less artificial cooling as they spend more time outside. Given that an outdoor living area provides shade by roof and is accessible to breezes, people are encouraged to switch off the air-conditioner and enjoy the natural environment.

Occupants who spend more time outside and not in air-conditioned spaces can also be expected to become more acclimatised to higher ambient temperatures.

A ½ star credit can be achieved by having a compliant outdoor living area with a roof that achieves R1.5 for downward heat flow.

Similarly, an additional ½ star credit (1 star total) can be achieved with the addition of a permanently installed ceiling fan with a speed controller and blade diameter no less than 900mm.

PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR SYSTEM



To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and assist with enhancing Queensland's solar energy potential, occupants that install a photovoltaic (PV) solar system with a minimum capacity of 1 kilowatt (kW) can achieve a 1 star credit.

A solar system works by absorbing sunlight with photovoltaic cells and converting it to energy with the help of an inverter. This energy then flows through the homes electrical panel to power appliances rather than using energy from the grid.