



Height Safety Compliance Checklist

Assess your building's compliance against Australian Standards

Work through each section and tick items that are in place. Any unticked item represents a potential compliance gap. This checklist covers the key requirements under AS/NZS 1891, AS 1657, AS 1851, AS 1892 and Safe Work Australia's Working at Heights guidelines.

■ Any fall risk reasonably likely to cause injury must be managed — regardless of height. (Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011)

1. Roof Access Systems

- Fixed roof ladders meet AS 1657 — correct pitch, handrails and landings
Check installation date and certification tag
- Roof hatches or access doors are lockable and clearly marked
- Access points are free from obstructions at all times
- Ladder cages or fall-arrest systems fitted where ladder height exceeds 6 m
- Access routes are clearly signposted for trades
- All access systems have been installed by an accredited installer

2. Fall Arrest & Restraint Systems

- Anchor points are installed and certified to AS/NZS 1891.4
Check anchor certification tags — annual recertification required
- Static line / horizontal lifeline systems are in place where required
Covers worker movement across the full roof travel path
- Travel restraint systems prevent workers from reaching unguarded edges
- All anchor points and lines are within annual recertification date
- A rescue plan is in place for a worker suspended in a harness
Required under Safe Work Australia guidelines
- System design documentation — drawings and load ratings — is held on file

3. Edge Protection

- Permanent guardrails installed at all unprotected roof edges
Preferred passive control under the WHS hierarchy of controls
- Guardrail height meets a minimum of 900 mm — 1,000 mm is recommended under AS 1657
- Roof perimeter edge protection is maintained and structurally sound

- Skylight protection screens or guardrails are in place
Skylights are a leading cause of fatal fall incidents
- Edge protection has been physically inspected within the last 12 months

4. Equipment & PPE

- Harnesses and lanyards are inspected every 6 months
AS/NZS 1891.1 requirement — maintain an inspection log with serial numbers
- All PPE is within its service life and free from visible damage
- Workers using the roof have completed working at heights training
- Rescue equipment is accessible and trained staff know how to use it
- PPE inspection records — dates and serial numbers — are held on file

5. Documentation & Certification

- A current height safety audit report is held on file
Annual audit is strongly recommended
- All anchor point and static line certificates are current
- Installation documentation — drawings and scope of works — is accessible
- Maintenance logs for all height safety equipment are up to date
- Safe Work Method Statements (SWMS) are required of all contractors
- Contractor insurance and licences are verified before roof access is granted
- Height safety system layout documentation is shared with contractors
Trades should know what is installed before they arrive on site

6. Emergency & Rescue Preparedness

- A written rescue procedure is in place and accessible to all relevant staff
- At least one person is trained in rescue from height
- Emergency contact numbers are posted at roof access points
- First aid equipment is accessible near roof access areas
- Incident reporting procedures are understood by all relevant staff

Scoring Guide

Ticks	What It Means	Recommended Action
All ticked	Strong compliance position	Schedule annual review to maintain
1–3 unticked	Minor gaps present	Address items within 30 days
4–6 unticked	Moderate compliance risk	Book a professional audit
7+ unticked	Significant compliance risk	Contact Anchored Height Safety today

■ Ready to close the gaps? Call 03 9555 3586 or visit anchored.com.au for a professional site assessment.

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