Is a lift the answer, and when?

Circle one answer per line and write the score in the box. Add up part A and part B. Your result is the first line that matches. This goes with pages 4 and 5 of the guide.

Homeowner _____ Address _____ Date _____

Part A: the need

QUESTION	0	1	2	SCORE
Who finds the stairs hard today?	Nobody	Someone, sometimes	Someone, every day	☐
Where are the main bedroom and a bathroom?	Both downstairs	One up, one down	Both upstairs	☐
Could you make a bedroom and bathroom downstairs?	Yes, easily	Only with an extension	No	☐
Is a walker or wheelchair likely here?	No	Maybe	Yes, or already	☐
Has anyone fallen, or nearly fallen, on the stairs?	No	Nearly	Yes, a fall	☐
			Part A total (out of 10)	☐

Part B: the timing

QUESTION	0	1	2	SCORE
What's happening to the house?	Nothing planned	A renovation in the next two years	Building or a big renovation now	☐
When could the money be ready?	Not yet	In one to three years	Within a year	☐
How long do you plan to stay?	Under five years	Five to ten	Ten or more	☐
			Part B total (out of 6)	☐

Your result: the first line that matches

"Bedroom downstairs" scored 0	**A lift may not be the answer**	Price a bedroom and bathroom downstairs first.
A is 6 or more	**Plan now**	Start with where it goes (guide page 6) and the costs (page 11).
A is 5 or less, B is 4 or more	**Build the space in now**	Build the pit, rail wall and power in now (guide page 10).
A is 5 or less, B is 3 or less	**Get ready and wait**	Do the fit sheet (worksheet 2). Look again in a year.

The eight numbers, at up to three spots.

Measure each spot and write the numbers in. The keys match the drawing on guide page 8. Not to scale, and not your house: build to your supplier's drawing.

Homeowner _____ Address _____ Date _____

MEASURE	TYPICAL IN AUSTRALIA, 2026	SPOT 1	SPOT 2	SPOT 3
1 **Shaft size** inside, width x depth	About 1 x 1 m up to 1.6 x 1.6 m. A wheelchair cabin needs about 1.1 x 1.4 m inside.			
2 **Pit** from the finished floor	None for vacuum and shaftless. Screw 37 to 50 mm, hydraulic 50 to 180 mm, traction 100 to 200 mm.			
3 **Headroom** top floor to shaft top	2,225 to 2,600 mm, often up into the roof space.			
4 **Floor to floor** surface to surface	Tape it down the stairwell. Each model has a height limit, and five levels can go over it.			
5 **Door opening** the hole, each level	About 900 to 1,000 mm wide and 2.0 to 2.1 m high, plus the door swing. Ask for the clear width too.			
6 **Power unit** near the shaft	A small unit, piped to the shaft. Hydraulic ones need some air around them.			
7 **Power** check your switchboard	Single-phase (one main switch on your board). Its own 15A to 30A circuit, safety switch and off switch.			
8 **Phone** 4G signal	A 4G SIM with its own battery. Bad reception may need a booster. Test it from inside with the doors shut.			
○ **Slab or timber?** under the spot (guide page 9)	Concrete feels solid, no vents. Timber sounds hollow.			
○ **A wall for the rails?** which wall (guide page 9)	Double brick, block, concrete or steel. Not veneer or a timber frame.			
○ **Who rides it?** and with what	A walker, a wheelchair, a carer alongside?			

Ours: every RISE 300 is made to measure. The pit is 150 mm, or 50 mm with a 400 mm ramp into the cabin.

One column per quote.

Ask every company, us too, to price the whole job. Then fill this in. Typical figures are published Australian prices, October 2026. Guide page 12 explains each line and page 13 adds up ten years.

Homeowner _____ Address _____ Date _____

WHAT	WHO DOES IT	TYPICAL, AUSTRALIA 2026	QUOTE A	QUOTE B	QUOTE C
1. The lift, installed and tested	Lift company	$25,000 to $120,000			
2. Shaft, pit, openings and the engineer	Builder	$5,000 to $20,000 or more			
3. Power to the lift and any switchboard work	Electrician	$500 to $1,000; more with a switchboard upgrade			
4. Building permit and surveyor	Surveyor	Ask before you sign			
5. Making good: plaster, paint, floors	Builder	Almost never in the lift price			
6. Getting it in: crane, scaffold	Builder or lift co.	Agree who pays first			
Installed total (lines 1 to 6)					
Servicing, per year after the first	Lift company	$325 to $1,500			
Call-out fee, in and out of warranty	Lift company	Ask, in writing			
Cabin phone or SIM, ongoing	You	Ask whose name it's in			

Ten years of running it, your numbers

LINE	YOUR FIGURE	TEN YEARS
Servicing per year x 9		
Call-outs: how many, at what fee		
What wears out: batteries, ropes, oil (ask)		
Phone or SIM, insurance and power (ask for the watts)		
Ten-year running cost, and per month		

The guide's worked example comes to $10,200 over ten years, about $85 a month to run, on top of the lift. Every guess is shown on page 13.

The lines quotes usually leave out.

If a quote doesn't say, write "not stated" and ask them. Guide pages 17 and 18 ask the same things in conversation.

Homeowner _____ Address _____ Date _____

LINE	QUOTE A	QUOTE B	QUOTE C
Company and model. Who makes it, brings it in, puts it in			
Price, installed and tested. Plus GST, or GST included?			
What the price includes, as a list			
What it leaves out: building, electrical, permit, making good			
Levels, height, weight it carries, cabin inside size			
Pit, headroom and shaft size on their drawing, with its date			
Power needed, and the phone type			
In a power cut: what happens, how long the battery lasts			
How long you'll wait, and how they keep you updated			
Days on site, and how they protect floors and stop dust			
Warranty: years for the frame, parts and labour. What cancels it			
Servicing: how often, the yearly price, what a visit includes			
Call-out fee, and how fast they come, in writing			
Their own technicians, or someone else's? Where are the parts kept?			
If the company closes: can others service it? Standard parts?			
Payment stages. Deposit size. What protects it			
The AS 1735 part the design is verified to			
Commissioning report and papers at handover (guide page 21). An owner you can phone			
Ten-year total (worksheet 3)			
Your score out of 10, and why			

Ours: we answer every line above in writing before you sign. If another company's quote answers more lines than ours, tell us and we'll fix ours.