

EV Charger Pre-Purchase Checklist

Run through this before you click 'buy' on a charger. It will save you a panel surprise on install day.

1. Panel & Service Capacity

- ☐ Open your main panel. Note the main breaker amp rating (100A, 150A, 200A).
- ☐ Count empty breaker spaces. A Level 2 charger needs 2 adjacent slots.
- ☐ Photograph the panel label and the inside of the panel — both useful for an estimate.
- ☐ Note the panel brand. Federal Pacific, Zinsco, or Challenger? Plan to upgrade before adding load.

Not sure? Text the panel photos to 516-361-4068 for a free read.

2. Charger Selection

- ☐ Decide Level 1 (120V) vs Level 2 (240V). Level 2 is the standard for daily driving.
- ☐ Pick hardwired vs plug-in (NEMA 14-50). Hardwired is cleaner; plug-in is portable.
- ☐ Choose amperage: 32A, 40A, or 48A. 48A requires hardwired install + larger wire.
- ☐ Confirm the charger is UL listed. Skip unlisted budget brands.
- ☐ Verify cable length reaches your parking spot with slack to spare.

3. Install Location

- ☐ Measure cable run from panel to charger location. Long runs cost more.
- ☐ Indoor garage or outdoor wall? Outdoor units must be NEMA-rated for weather.
- ☐ Confirm a clear mounting wall at proper height (~48 inches).
- ☐ Plan cable management — wall hook, retractor, or holster.

4. Permits & Code (Long Island)

- ☐ Confirm your town requires an electrical permit (most do).
- ☐ Ask the installer who pulls the permit and schedules inspection.

- ☐ Verify the install includes a dedicated circuit with proper GFCI/breaker per NEC.

5. Questions to Ask the Installer

- ☐ Are you a licensed Long Island electrician? Insured? License number?
- ☐ Is the permit and inspection included in the price?
- ☐ What size wire and breaker are you using, and why?
- ☐ What's the warranty on workmanship?
- ☐ Will you load-calculate my panel before installing?

Tip: Don't buy the charger until you confirm your panel can handle it. We see this mistake every week.

Want a second set of eyes?

Text photos of your panel or project to **516-361-4068** and Rob will give you a quick honest opinion — no pressure, no quote pitch.