

PLAN SMART:

SITE ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES FOR EV CHARGING SUCCESS

Streamline your EV charger installations with Blink's proven site assessment strategies—designed to ensure speed, accuracy, and long-term scalability.



Working with a Contractor

Whether you're working with your own contractor or prefer one recommended by Blink, our goal is to ensure your site evaluation and quote are as accurate as possible. We want you to feel confident exploring installation options tailored to each location.

- If you choose a Blink-recommended independent contractor, we'll connect you with someone experienced in installing Blink charging stations.
- We'll also be there to guide them or any contractor you choose, through the process if needed.

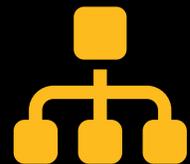
Permit Requirements

Like any other construction project, there are permit requirements—these vary by local regulations and are specific to your site location. Your contractor will need to investigate the local requirements. When first discussing your project with your contractor, they will outline permitting requirements and costs.

HOW TO LOWER COSTS

Reducing installation costs starts with smart planning. Here are three proven strategies to help you keep your EV charger deployment budget in check:

- ✓ **INSTALL CLOSER TO THE POWER SOURCE**
Whenever possible, place chargers near the existing electrical supply. This reduces the amount of trenching, conduit, and cabling required—lowering both material and labor costs. Pulling power from an existing electrical room is often more cost-effective than installing a new meter or tapping into a remote utility transformer.
- ✓ **USE LOAD MANAGEMENT**
Load management allows multiple chargers to share a single circuit, reducing the need for extensive electrical upgrades. This can be especially useful for sites with limited available capacity. Smart load sharing not only helps lower upfront costs but also prepares your site to scale as demand grows.
- ✓ **CHOOSE COST-EFFECTIVE MOUNTING OPTIONS**
Mounting method impacts cost. Wall-mounted chargers are typically less expensive than pedestal-mounted ones due to reduced hardware and installation time. Blink also offers pole mounting kits that can leverage existing infrastructure—an effective way to cut deployment costs without compromising functionality.



Parking Spots and Circuitry

Thoughtful placement of EV chargers—such as Blink Level 2 and DC fast chargers (DCFC)—along with efficient electrical planning can help reduce costs and enhance the overall user experience. The following are general recommendations to guide charger positioning and circuit layout, regardless of site type.

- **Charger Placement Based on Parking Configuration**

For a one-to-one setup (one charger per parking spot), position the charger in the center, directly in front of the parking space. For a shared setup (one charger serving two spots), install the charger centered along the line dividing the two spaces. This allows easy access to both vehicles.

- **Multi-Port Chargers**

When using chargers with dual ports or units intended to serve two parking spaces, place them in the same centered position—aligned with the dividing line—to provide balanced access. Mounting location should ensure that both cables reach their intended spaces without strain.

- **Electrical Circuitry Best Practices**

If multiple chargers are sharing a mounting structure, and each charger is on a separate dedicated circuit, consider running both circuits through a single conduit stub. This simplifies installation and reduces clutter. For stub-up installations, a conduit height of approximately 6 inches above grade is recommended to allow easy access during mounting.



Ensuring Safety and Accessibility

Proper planning for safety and accessibility is critical to protecting your investment, complying with local regulations, and ensuring a positive user experience. Consider the following best practices:

1. Avoid Areas Prone to Water Exposure

EV chargers should never be installed in flood-prone areas or locations with poor drainage. Even weather-resistant units can be compromised if water reaches the conduit or electrical connections. Ensure proper site grading and drainage to keep water away from critical components during storms.

2. Use a Suitable Concrete Pad When Required

Some charger installations—particularly pedestal-mounted units—may require a concrete pad. In many cases, existing concrete surfaces may be used, but consult your contractor for site-specific requirements.

- In regions subject to seismic or hurricane loads, a reinforced 36" x 36" pad is often recommended.
- For standard installations, a 24" x 24" reinforced pad may be sufficient.
- Note: Larger pads may require offset conduit placement to meet ADA accessibility standards.

3. Design for Accessibility (ADA Compliance)

Making chargers accessible to all drivers, including those with disabilities, is not only good practice—it may also be required by local regulations. When possible, design your layout so that every charger is ADA accessible. If that's not feasible, at least one charger must meet ADA standards. Features to consider include appropriate spacing, reach ranges, and clear paths of travel.

4. Protect Equipment from Vehicle Impact

To prevent damage from accidental contact with vehicles, consider using physical barriers such as bollards or wheel stops. Protection needs depend on charger height, proximity to traffic flow, and visibility. If natural barriers (like curbs or walls) are not present, protective measures are strongly recommended.



Getting the Chargers Online

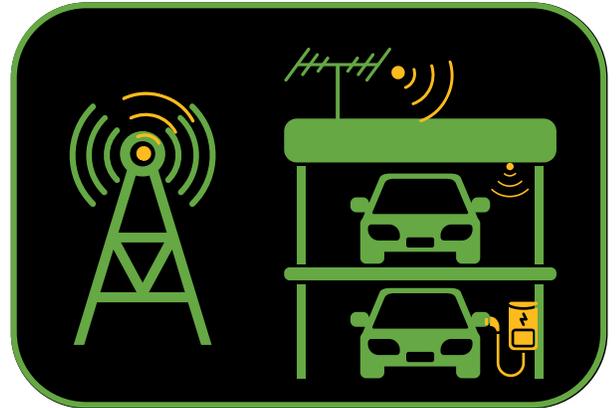
Bringing your EV chargers online requires more than just power—they also need reliable connectivity and foresight for future expansion. Here’s how to plan effectively:

Ensure Reliable Connectivity

Connected EV chargers rely on stable communication for monitoring, billing, updates, and support. In many parking garages or enclosed structures, cell reception may be limited or nonexistent. In these cases, site hosts should provide either:

- A reliable Wi-Fi connection, or
- A cellular booster to improve signal strength.

Evaluate connectivity at the installation location before selecting a solution, and ensure the chosen method supports consistent network uptime.



GENERATING AWARENESS FOR YOUR CHARGERS

Making your EV chargers easy to find—and clearly designated—helps increase usage and avoid confusion. Simple visual cues like signage and pavement markings can make a significant impact.

1. Use Clear Signage

Every charger should have clear signage indicating its function and availability. This not only guides EV drivers but also discourages non-EV vehicles from occupying the space. Signs should be installed directly at or near the charging station and be visible from a distance.



2. Apply Pavement Markings

Painting or striping the pavement in front of each charger reinforces its designated use and creates visual distinction. Common approaches include **green-painted zones**, EV charging symbols, and bold striping. Work with your contractor during installation planning to define what markings best suit your site’s layout and local requirements.





Plan for Future Demand

The EV market is growing rapidly. According to the International Energy Agency, over 13 million charging stations will be needed in the U.S. by 2030, compared to the current estimate of around 200,000. Planning for expansion now can help you avoid costly upgrades later.

To reduce future costs and disruptions, consider the following best practices during your initial installation:

- Pull extra conductors during the first installation phase. These can be safely stored in a junction box, handhole, or pull box for future use.
- Oversize conduit and breaker panels to accommodate more circuits and additional chargers down the line.
- Avoid rework by installing larger capacity infrastructure upfront —saving on trenching, wiring, or panel upgrades in the future.



Have questions? Your Blink Sales Executive is here to help.

Contact Host Support at (888) 998.2546 x2 or email hostsupport@blinkcharging.com