

2026 DIGITAL EDITION

Partner visa evidence guide + checklist

The most important documents for planning an Australian partner visa evidence file - with a printable checklist and current digital next steps.

[Open the interactive checklist](#)

Use the PDF and interactive checklist together

The PDF is your portable reference. The interactive version is your working progress tracker.

1. Read the evidence guide.

Understand the role each evidence type may play.

2. Open the interactive checklist.

Choose a planning view, mark items and identify gaps.

3. Confirm current requirements.

Forms, health, character and pathway instructions can change.



Open checklist

Important information

This resource is general educational information. It does not create a solicitor-client relationship and is not legal advice. It is not a complete document list and does not determine eligibility, the correct pathway or whether a legal requirement is satisfied. Requirements, forms and Department processes can change. Verify current Home Affairs instructions and obtain professional advice where your circumstances require it. Do not create or alter records merely to manufacture visa evidence.

Version: 11 July 2026

Current-form note: Form 888 references align to Home Affairs design 11/24.

A note from Martin

A clearer evidence plan starts with understanding what each document is meant to show.



Hi there - Martin Salvo here.

Thank you for taking the time to use this guide. I genuinely hope it gives you useful structure and helps you understand the role the main relationship-evidence documents can play in your partner visa preparation.

The checklist is now available in two forms: this portable PDF and a free interactive version that lets you choose a pathway view, mark progress and identify questions. Use both as planning tools, and confirm the current requirements that apply to your circumstances before lodging anything.

Martin Salvo

Principal lawyer, Salvo Migration

[Continue interactively](#)

Three common partner visa pathways

Use these as general planning views, not as an eligibility or pathway decision.

820 / 801

Onshore partner

A planning view for a partner applicant in Australia. The relevance of married or de facto evidence depends on your circumstances and current requirements.

Confirm the current pathway page and get individual advice where the correct option is uncertain.

309 / 100

Offshore partner

A planning view for a partner applicant outside Australia. Evidence may need to explain shared life across countries or periods living apart.

Confirm the current pathway page and get individual advice where the correct option is uncertain.

300

Prospective marriage

A planning view for a couple intending to marry. In-person history, genuine future intentions and current pathway requirements matter.

Confirm the current pathway page and get individual advice where the correct option is uncertain.

The four relationship aspects

The evidence file should help explain how the relationship operates, not merely accumulate documents.



Household

Documents can help show where and when you lived together and how household responsibilities were shared.

Look for consistency across dates, addresses, names and milestones.



Financial

Records can help explain how you share financial responsibilities, costs, assets or longer-term planning.

Look for consistency across dates, addresses, names and milestones.



Social

Evidence can help show how friends, family and the wider community know and observe the relationship.

Look for consistency across dates, addresses, names and milestones.



Commitment

Your history, future plans, important decisions and ongoing support can help explain the nature of your commitment.

Look for consistency across dates, addresses, names and milestones.

Your facts determine what is relevant

The same checklist item can carry different weight for different couples and pathways.

1

Living together

If you have shared a home, map the address history and documents over time. If you have not, explain the genuine circumstances rather than forcing an inapplicable item.

2

Living apart

Show how the relationship continued through visits, communication, support and future planning where periods apart are part of the history.

3

Intending to marry

Use genuine planning records where relevant. Do not create artificial bookings or documents merely to produce evidence.

4

Different financial arrangements

Joint accounts are only one form of evidence. Explain how shared costs and financial responsibilities actually work in your relationship.

The aim is a truthful, coherent evidence file - not identical documents, artificial records or a generic checklist completed without context.

BEFORE YOU START

The evidence checklist

The items on the next pages carry forward the headings and educational purpose of Salvo's original guide. They are not a complete list and not every item will apply to every couple. Use the current explanations to understand what each item may help show, then verify your pathway and current Home Affairs instructions.

Five useful statuses: not started | collecting | ready | not applicable | need advice

Mark the printable boxes here, or use the interactive checklist to save a working status against each item.

[Open interactive version](#)

Core evidence: relationship foundation

Use these items only where they truthfully reflect your circumstances.

1

Marriage or civil union certificate

☐

Commitment

If you are married or have a recognised civil union, keep the official certificate and any translation required for documents not in English. The relevance of a certificate to eligibility depends on the pathway and your circumstances.

PRACTICAL NOTE

If you are not married, mark this item not applicable rather than treating it as missing evidence.

2

Strong cohabitation evidence

☐

Household

Documents showing where and when you have lived together can help explain the household aspect of your relationship. Evidence may include leases, utilities, government correspondence or other records addressed to each person at the same address.

PRACTICAL NOTE

Create an address timeline first. Explain gaps or time apart honestly rather than hiding them.

3

Optimised joint bank account (+ transaction history)

☐

Financial

Joint accounts and transaction histories can help show how you share financial responsibilities. What matters is that the records truthfully reflect how your relationship operates; not every couple manages money in the same way.

PRACTICAL NOTE

Explain the purpose and use of each account. If finances are separate, describe how shared costs are actually handled.

Core evidence: longer-term planning

These documents should reflect genuine arrangements, not be created solely for a visa file.

4 Superannuation beneficiary nominations ☐

Commitment Financial

Where suitable for your circumstances, beneficiary arrangements may help document longer-term financial planning and commitment. They should reflect your genuine estate and financial intentions.

PRACTICAL NOTE

This is optional and may not suit everyone. Seek financial or legal advice if you are unsure about the consequences.

5 Wills naming each other as beneficiaries ☐

Commitment Financial

Where consistent with your real estate-planning intentions, wills may help document long-term commitment and financial planning. A will is a legal document and should not be created solely as visa evidence.

PRACTICAL NOTE

Mark this not applicable if it is not part of your current arrangements. Obtain estate-planning advice if needed.

6 Relationship declared with other government agencies ☐

Financial Social

Where an agency asks for relationship information, keep declarations accurate and up to date. Existing government records may also help show when your relationship was formally recorded.

PRACTICAL NOTE

Do not change a record merely to manufacture evidence. Correct inaccurate records through the relevant agency.

Core evidence: supporters and chronology

Keep every statement and timeline consistent with the underlying facts and documents.

7

Form 888 supporting statements from friends & family



Social

Design 11/24

The current Home Affairs Form 888 is a supporting statement about a partner or prospective marriage visa application. It is not presented as a statutory declaration and the current design does not contain an authorised-witness section. Always use the current form.

[Open current Form 888](#)

PRACTICAL NOTE

Specific first-hand observations are more useful than generic praise. Each supporter should use their own words.

8

Engagement & wedding planning documents



Commitment

Social

Where intention to marry is relevant, planning records can help show that your plans are real and developing. Depending on your facts, these might include communications with a celebrant or venue, invitations, deposits or family planning discussions.

PRACTICAL NOTE

Do not create artificial bookings simply for evidence. Use genuine records that already reflect your plans.

9

Relationship timeline (visual)



Commitment

Social

A visual timeline can help organise important dates and make your relationship history easier to understand. It should agree with the dates used in your statements and forms.

PRACTICAL NOTE

Include genuine milestones that help explain the story. A clear chronology is more useful than a crowded graphic.

Relationship statements: connect the evidence

Applicant and sponsor should each explain the relationship separately and in their own words.

10

Relationship statements (applicant + sponsor)



Applicant and sponsor relationship statements can help explain your shared history, how your relationship operates across the four aspects, and how the other evidence fits together. Each person should write separately and in their own words.

Practical note

Write independently, then compare names, dates, addresses and milestones before finalising. Explain genuine differences rather than forcing two statements into identical wording.

See Statement Studio - \$7 subscriber edition

APPLICATION-STAGE CHECKS

Confirm before acting

Requirements and timing can vary. Use current official instructions rather than legacy shortcuts.

11

Police checks -
confirm who,
where and when

[Current instructions](#)

Police-check requirements and timing depend on the people involved, countries lived in and current Home Affairs instructions. Confirm exactly which checks are required before ordering them because validity periods and acceptable issuing authorities can change.

[Official character guidance](#)**PRACTICAL NOTE**

Keep a country and address history, but do not assume every person needs the same certificates.

12

Health
examinations -
wait for current
instructions

[Confirm timing](#)

Health-examination timing and the examinations requested can depend on the application and current Home Affairs process. Follow the instructions provided for your application rather than assuming that booking immediately is always best.

[Official health instructions](#)**PRACTICAL NOTE**

Use an approved clinic or panel physician only through the current process and keep the reference details supplied to you.

13

Form 80 - prepare
only if relevant

[May be requested](#)

Form 80 may be relevant or requested in some matters. Do not assume it is required in every partner visa application; check the current application instructions or any request from Home Affairs.

[Open current Form 80](#)**PRACTICAL NOTE**

Maintain a complete travel, address, education and employment history so the form is easier if required.

Turn the PDF into a working checklist

The interactive checklist adds pathway views, five statuses, four-aspect progress and optional cross-device saving.

What the interactive version adds

- 1 Choose an 820/801, 309/100 or 300 planning view
- 2 Mark not started, collecting, ready, not applicable or need advice
- 3 See progress across financial, household, social and commitment evidence
- 4 Print or save an updated working copy



Open my checklist

Scan or click - no payment required

NEXT LOGICAL STEP

The checklist shows what to collect. Statement Studio helps you explain it.

Checklist subscribers can access the complete Statement Studio + Relationship Statement Guide for one \$7 AUD payment.

STATEMENT STUDIO + COMPLETE GUIDE

Turn your relationship history into a clear, structured draft

- Guided applicant and sponsor statement workflow
- Four-aspect prompts and consistency checks
- Complete guide, Word template and audio edition

\$7 AUD

Optional at checkout

Form 888 Studio

For couples also preparing supporter evidence: current-form guidance, learning examples and private supporter workspaces. The \$17 AUD add-on is optional and remains unselected unless you choose it.



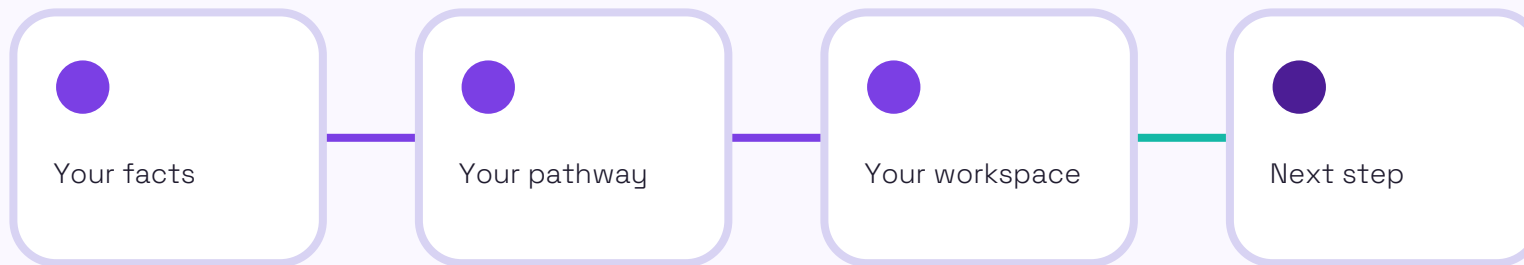
See the \$7 offer

One-time digital purchase. Educational self-help resources, not legal advice.



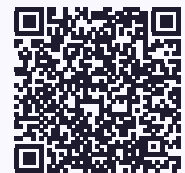
Your journey to Australia, finally clear.

Veazy turns migration preparation into a visible pathway: see where you are, organise the work that matters and understand what may come next.



Create a free Veazy account

Veazy helps you structure and understand preparation. It does not guarantee a visa outcome.



Self-help tools or individual legal support

Keep the next action matched to the complexity of your circumstances.

OPTION 1

See how Salvo helps

Browse current partner visa approvals and learn how the lawyer-led service works. Past outcomes do not guarantee future results.

[View approvals](#)

OPTION 2

Talk through a complex matter

A free strategy call is for people genuinely considering legal representation, especially where there are refusals, status issues, urgent timing or significant evidence concerns.

[Book a free strategy call](#)

Questions? enquiry@salvomigration.com.au | 1300 644 788 | Level 5, 320 Adelaide Street, Brisbane QLD