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Australian Standard®

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**National plumbing and drainage  
code**

**Part 1: Water supply**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee WS/14, National Plumbing and Drainage Code. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 29 January 1990 and published on 14 May 1990.

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The following interests are represented on Committee WS/14:

Association of Hydraulic Services Consultants Australia  
Austap  
Australian Clay Pipe Manufacturers Association  
Australian Local Government Engineers Association  
Brisbane City Council  
Building Services Corporation  
Department of Administrative Service—Australian Construction Services  
Department of Lands and Housing, N.T.  
Engineering and Water Supply Department, S.A.  
Federated Master Plumbers of Australia  
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Master Plumbers Association of South Australia  
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on the National Plumbing and Drainage Code, to provide the plumbing industry and the regulatory authorities responsible for water supply with uniform requirements for the installations of water services.

The requirements of this Standard apply to that part of the cold water service from the point of connection to the water main up to the outlet points within the property and also apply to the design, installation methods and material types permitted. When implementing this Standard, consideration should be given to defined area peculiarities and local conditions.

This Standard has been written in a format compatible with legislative requirements. In its preparation, account has been taken of regulations stipulated by the authorities responsible for the administration of water legislation in each State and Territory of Australia. These authorities are the only bodies which can enforce regulations and authorize products for connection to their systems.

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## FOREWORD

Attention is drawn to the relevant statutory requirements with respect to—

- (a) the qualifications of persons permitted by law to do plumbing work;
- (b) the administrative procedures to be followed by persons performing plumbing work; and
- (c) the authorization of certain materials, products, fittings, and other components for connection to public water supply systems.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

## National plumbing and drainage code

## Part 1: Water supply

## SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE.** This Standard sets out the requirements for the installation of cold water services from the Authority's water main to the points of discharge. This Standard applies to new installations as well as alterations, additions, and repairs to existing installations.

NOTE: The requirements for hot water services are set out in AS 1529.

**1.2 APPLICATION.**

**1.2.1 General.** This Standard shall be read in conjunction with the by-laws and regulations of the relevant regulatory authorities.

**1.2.2 New materials and methods.** This Standard shall not be interpreted to prevent the use of materials or methods not specifically referred to herein. If it is desired to use material or methods not covered by this Standard, they shall be submitted to the relevant authority for authorization.

**1.2.3 Unusual installations.** Certain installations or portions of installations which are unusual due to particular circumstances or methods, may not be covered in detail by this Standard.

Details of such installations shall be submitted to the relevant authority which, having regard to all the circumstances, may authorize the installation.

**1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.** The documents referred to in this Standard, are listed in—**Appendix A—'Materials and products'**. The Australian Standards containing the requirements necessary to obtain the StandardsMark for materials and products.

**Appendix B—'Installation'**. The other Australian Standards called up in the body of the Standard.

**Appendix C—'Miscellaneous'**. Other national Standards and miscellaneous specifications.

**1.4 DEFINITIONS.** The definitions given in AS 3500.0 shall apply.

**1.5 CLASSIFICATION OF SOILS.** Soils shall be classified in accordance with AS 1726.

**1.6 CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDINGS**

Buildings shall be classified in accordance with the Building Code of Australia. (See Appendix D.) The classification of a building, or portion of a building, shall be determined by the purpose for which it is designed, constructed or adapted for use.

**1.7 FIRE RESISTANCE LEVEL (FRL).** Water services within buildings shall be installed in a manner that maintains the fire resistance level (FRL) of any affected building components as specified in the Building Code of Australia.

**1.8 EQUIVALENT PIPE SIZES.** Where the nominal size of a pipe is specified in this Standard, an equivalent pipe size, appropriate to the material being used, shall be selected from Table 1.1.

**TABLE 1.1**  
**EQUIVALENT PIPE SIZES**

Specified nominal size	Acceptable equivalent size						
	Copper	Stainless steel	Galv'd steel	UPVC Nominal size mm*	ABS	PE Nominal size mm*	PB Nominal size mm*
DN 10	DN 10	DN 10	DN 10	15	DN 10	12	15
DN 15	DN 15	DN 15	DN 15	15	DN 10	16	18
DN 18	DN 18	DN 18	DN 15	15	DN 15	20	20
DN 20	DN 20	DN 20	DN 20	15	DN 20	25	22
DN 25	DN 25	DN 25	DN 25	20	DN 25	32	32
DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	25	DN 32	40	40
DN 40	DN 40	DN 40	DN 40	32	DN 40	50	50
DN 50	DN 50	DN 50	DN 50	50	DN 50	63	63

DN—nominal size

\* Notation De—nominal size in plastics pipes Standards