

AS/NZS 3500.3:2025



Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Plumbing and drainage

Part 3: Stormwater drainage

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AS/NZS 3500.3:2025

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard™ was prepared by Joint Technical Committee WS-014, Plumbing and Drainage. It was approved on behalf of Standards Australia's Standards Development and Accreditation Committee on 28 March 2025 and by the New Zealand Standards Approval Board on 05 June 2024.

This Standard was published on 17 April 2025.

The following are represented on Committee WS-014:

Association of Hydraulic Services Consultants Australia
Association of Hydraulic Services Consultants Australia (New Zealand)
Australian Building Codes Board
Australian Gas Association
Australian Industry Group
Australian Stainless Steel Development Association
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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS 3500.3:2023.

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ISBN 978 1 76175 137 0

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Plumbing and drainage

Part 3: Stormwater drainage

Originally as part of AS CS 3—1931.
AS 3500.3.1:1998 and AS/NZS 3500.3.2:1998 jointly revised and redesignated as AS/
NZS 3500.3:2003.
Previous edition 2021.
New edition 2025.

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How to read this Standard

This page explains the meaning of the language and structure of this Standard.

Refer to Standards Australia's Standardisation Guide 006 for more details about drafting rules.

Australian and Australian/New Zealand Standards are voluntary unless they are referenced in legislation or called up in contracts.

Requirements

To conform to a Standard, all requirements in the Standard need to be met.

A requirement is any statement in the Standard which uses the word "shall".

Recommendations, permissions and possibilities

The following words are commonly used in Standards, but statements using them do not have to be followed to conform to the Standard:

- (a) "should" means that something is recommended.
- (b) "may" means that something is permitted.
- (c) "can" means that something is possible.

Structure of Standards

A Standard always has the following parts:

- (i) The Preface states who developed the Standard, what the Standard is aiming to do, and how it relates to other documents.
- (ii) The Scope states what the Standard is about, what it covers and what it does not cover.
- (iii) The Normative references clause lists other documents that are referenced in the Standard as part of requirements.
- (iv) The Terms and definitions clause defines important terms to help with understanding the Standard.

A Standard may also include other parts, such as the following:

- (1) A normative appendix sets additional requirements that need to be conformed to.
- (2) An informative appendix provides additional information or guidance. They usually do not contain requirements. If an informative appendix does contain requirements, the Standard will explain when those requirements apply.
- (3) A Bibliography lists documents referenced in the Standard but not as part of requirements.

Many Standards include notes. Notes provide recommendations and/or guidance only. They never contain requirements.

Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee WS-014, Plumbing and Drainage, to supersede AS/NZS 3500.3:2021.

The objective of this document is to provide stormwater drainage solutions to comply with —

- (a) the National Construction Code (NCC); and
- (b) the New Zealand Building Code (NZBC), Clause E1 Surface Water.

A list of all parts in the AS/NZS 3500 series for plumbing and drainage can be found in the Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand online catalogues.

The major changes in this revision are as follows:

- (i) Updated requirements for residential eaves gutter overflows and valley gutters, see [Clause 3](#) and [Appendix F](#).
- (ii) New requirements for the connection of miscellaneous devices and appliances to the stormwater drainage systems in Australia, see [Clause 5.3.8](#).
- (iii) New requirements for the design and installation of rainwater harvesting systems in New Zealand, see [Section 11](#).

Notes or footnotes to tables or figures that are expressed in mandatory terms are deemed to be requirements of this document.

Notes to clauses in this document are informative only and do not include requirements.

The terms “normative” and “informative” are used in documents to define the application of the appendices to which they apply. A “normative” appendix is an integral part of a document, whereas an “informative” appendix is only for information and guidance.

This document includes commentary on some of the clauses. The commentary directly follows the relevant clause, is designated by “C” preceding the clause number and is printed in italics in a box. The commentary is for information and guidance and does not form part of the document.

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NOTES

Australian/New Zealand Standard

Plumbing and drainage

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Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This document sets out requirements for —

- (a) materials, design, installation and testing of roof drainage systems, surface drainage systems and subsoil drainage systems to a point of connection; and
- (b) rainwater harvesting systems for New Zealand (see [Section 11](#)).

NOTE: [Appendix M](#) provides general information to users of the document.

1.2 Application

1.2.1 Australia

This document shall be read in conjunction with the National Construction Code (NCC).

If alternative Australian or New Zealand Standards are referenced, the Australian Standard shall be used for Australia only.

1.2.2 New Zealand

This document shall be read in conjunction with the New Zealand Building Code (NZBC). It may be used to demonstrate compliance with the NZBC, Clause E1 Surface Water.

If alternative New Zealand Standards are referenced, the New Zealand Standard shall be used for New Zealand only.

1.3 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document.

NOTE Documents referenced for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

AS 1074, *Steel tubes and tubulars for ordinary service*

AS 1273, *Unplasticized PVC (UPVC) downpipe and fittings for rainwater*

AS 1289.5.4.1, *Methods of testing soils for engineering purposes, Method 5.4.1: Soil compaction and density tests — Compaction control test — Dry density ratio, moisture variation and moisture ratio*

AS 1289.5.6.1, *Methods of testing soils for engineering purposes, Part 5.6.1: Soil compaction and density tests — Compaction control test — Density index method for a cohesionless material*

AS 1379, *Specification and supply of concrete*

AS 1432, *Copper tubes for plumbing, gasfitting and drainage applications*

AS 1478.1, *Chemical admixtures for concrete, mortar and grout, Part 1: Admixtures for concrete*

AS 1604.1, *Specification for preservative treatment, Part 1: Sawn and round timber*