

Get to know B1/AS1 Second edition

INFORMATION ON THE NEW EDITION OF THE ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION

On 28 July 2025, MBIE published Acceptable Solution B1/AS1 Second edition.

If you have used B1/AS1 in the past, you may see some changes in the new edition.



New layout

Since 2021, MBIE has been publishing new editions of the acceptable solutions and verification methods in an updated document format. The new format has a consistent layout and structure and should be easier to use in an electronic format. Consequently, headings and paragraph numbers in B1/AS1 have changed to fit in the new layout.



Building Product Specifications

The acceptable solution now includes references to the Building Product Specifications. Further information on the Building Product Specifications and what purposes it is used for are provided in the acceptable solution.



Minor amendments that do not affect the level of performance

Other minor amendments have been made to the acceptable solution that do not affect the level of performance require but may assist in the interpretation and use of the document. This includes corrections for typos, grammar, formatting, cross-references, and punctuation. Since B1/AS1 has remained in the same edition since 1992, the document has also been revised to reflect current practices for drafting the text and written into sentence and paragraph format.

We have provided the table on the follow pages to outline the differences between the First edition and Second edition including:

- A side-by-side index of the headings and paragraph numbers that have changed, and
- Comments on specific headings and paragraphs where the text has changed.

This table has been provided for information only. The wording and numbering in the acceptable solution itself takes precedence.

The previous edition of B1/AS1 can still be used to demonstrate compliance with the Building Code until 31 July 2026.

Information on the second edition

B1/AS1 First edition	B1/AS1 Second edition	Comments on B1/AS1 Second edition
Document title: General	Document title: Structural provisions for buildings	New title to describe the scope of the document.
1.0 Explanatory note	Part 1. General	
	1.1 Introduction	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs
	1.1.1 Scope of this document	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs
1.1 <no title>	1.1.1.1	Sentence rewritten.
	1.1.2 Items outside the scope of this document	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs
1.2 <no title>	1.1.2.1	Sentence rewritten.
	1.1.2.2	New sentence to clarify the scope.
	1.1.2.2	New paragraph relocated from previous 2.1.2, 3.1.14, and 4.1.5. Comment box rewritten with the first sentence as normative text.
	1.1.3 Compliance pathway	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs
	1.1.3.1	New paragraph on compliance
	1.1.3.2	New paragraph to remind users that alternatives may also be used for compliance.
	1.2 Using this acceptable solution	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs
	1.2.1 Good ground	New heading to describe the subsection.
	1.2.1.1	Copied from the definition of good ground to reinforce the requirements for determining good ground.
1.3 <no title>	1.2.2 Modifications of standards	
1.3 [Paragraph text]	1.2.2.1	Rewritten.
1.4 Consequential changes due to 2010/11 Canterbury earthquakes	<Heading removed>	Comment box retained beneath 1.2.2.1
	1.2.3 Building Product Specifications	New subsection on the Building Product Specifications
	1.2.3.1	New paragraph on the scope of the Building Product Specifications
	1.2.3.2	New paragraph on the compliance pathway using the Building Product Specifications

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B1/AS1 First edition	B1/AS1 Second edition	Comments on B1/AS1 Second edition
	Part 2. Buildings	New heading to group the primary standards for buildings. The logic sequence for B1/AS1 and B1/VM1 follows clauses B1.2 and B1.3 (buildings, buildings elements, sitework)
2.0	2.1 Masonry	
	2.1.1 Reinforced concrete masonry	New heading
2.1 NZS 4229	2.1.1.1	Sentence rewritten
2.1.0 Referenced documents	2.1.2 Referenced documents	
2.1.0 [Paragraph text]	2.1.2.1	Sentence rewritten to standalone in the document without reference to B1/VM1.
2.1.1 NZS 4229 Clause 7.8.3	2.1.3 Concrete slab reinforcement	
2.1.1 [Paragraph text]	2.1.3.1	Rewritten into paragraph format. Rewritten to say 'replace'.
2.1.2 NZS 4229 Foundations where good ground has not been established	<Relocated to 1.1.2.2>	Text relocated to 1.1.2.2 to avoid repetition of requirements and make the limitations on foundations clear upfront. Portions of the comment box relocated to under 1.2.1.1.
2.1.3 NZS 4229 Grade 500E welded steel mesh	2.1.4 Welded steel mesh	
2.1.3 [Paragraph text]	2.1.4.1	Amended to reference the Building Product Specifications for welded steel mesh.
3.0 Timber	2.3 Timber	Reorganised to reflect order in B1/VM1 (masonry, steel, timber)
3.1 NZS 3604	2.3.1 Timber-framed buildings	Heading renamed to reflect the scope of NZS 3604
3.1 [Paragraph text]	2.3.1.1	Sentence rewritten into paragraph format to introduce the section.
3.1.0 Referenced documents	2.3.2 Referenced documents	
3.1.0 [Paragraph text]	2.3.2.1	Rewritten to be simpler and remove reference to B1/VM1
3.1.1 NZS 3604 Paragraph 1.3 Definitions	2.3.3 Definitions	
3.1.1 [Paragraph text]	2.3.3.1	Rewritten into paragraph format. Definition for "bracing rating" amended as a consequence of referencing the Building Product Specifications.
3.1.2 NZS 3604 Section 5 Bracing design	2.3.4 Bracing design	

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B1/AS1 First edition	B1/AS1 Second edition	Comments on B1/AS1 Second edition
3.1.2 [Paragraph text]	2.3.4.1	Formatted into paragraph form. Replaced 'Amend' with 'Modify' to reflect BA 2004 s405 powers.
	2.3.4.2	New paragraph added to reference the Building Product Specifications for wall bracing of timber-framed buildings.
	2.3.5 Timber Piles	New subsection for timber piles.
	2.3.5.1	New paragraph added to reference the Building Product Specifications for timber piles.
	2.3.6 Timber decks	New heading to reflect the relevant parts of NZS 3604 being modified
3.1.2A NZS 3604 Clause 7.4.1.3	2.3.6.1	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph. 'Delete' changed to 'remove'.
3.1.2B NZS 3604 Figure 7.10(b)	2.3.6.2	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph.
3.1.2C NZS 3604 Figure 7.10(c)	2.3.6.3	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph. 'Insert' changed to 'add' and 'delete' to 'remove' to reflect current drafting practices.
3.1.3 NZS 3604 Clause 7.5.2.3	2.3.7 Concrete slab-on-ground floors	Re-named based on the relevant sections of NZS 3604 being modified.
3.1.3 [Paragraph text]	2.3.7.1(a)	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph. 'Delete' changed to 'remove'.
3.1.4 NZS 3604 Figure 7.13	2.3.7.1(b) and 2.3.7.1(c)	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph. 'Amend' replaced with 'modify' and 'delete' changed to 'remove'.
3.1.5 NZS 3604 Figure 7.14	2.3.7.1(d) and 2.3.7.1(e)	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph. 'Amend' replaced with 'modify'
3.1.5 Comment	2.3.7.1 Comment	Comment moved to end of list and re-written.
3.1.6 NZS 3604 Figure 7.15	2.3.7.1(f)	Formatted into list. 'delete' changed to 'remove'
3.1.6 Comment	<removed>	Redundant comment removed.

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B1/AS1 First edition	B1/AS1 Second edition	Comments on B1/AS1 Second edition
3.1.7 NZS 3604 Figure 7.16	2.3.7.1(g)	Formatted into list. 'Delete' changed to 'remove'
3.1.7 Comment	<removed>	Redundant comment removed.
3.1.8 NZS 3604 Clause 7.5.8.1	2.3.7.2	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph. 'Delete' changed to 'replace'. Reference to AS/NZS 4671 replaced with reference to the Building Product Specifications
3.1.9 NZS 3604 Clause 7.5.8.3	2.3.7.3	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph. 'Delete' changed to 'replace'
3.1.10 NZS 3604 Clause 7.5.8.6.2	2.3.7.4(a)	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph. 'Delete' changed to 'remove' and 'replace'
3.1.11 NZS 3604 Figure 7.18	2.3.7.4(b)	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph.
3.1.12 NZS 3604 Clause 7.5.8.6.3	2.3.7.5	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph.
3.1.13 NZS 3604 New clause	2.3.7.6	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph.
3.1.14 NZS 3604 Foundations where good ground has not been established	<Relocated to 1.1.2.2>	Text relocated to 1.1.2.2 to avoid repetition of requirements and make the limitations on foundations clear upfront.
3.2 Slab-on-ground in expansive soils	2.3.8 Slab-on-ground in expansive soils	
3.2.1 NZS 3604 Clause 1.1.2 Buildings covered by this Standard	2.3.8.1(a)	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph.
3.2.2 NZS 3604 New clause	2.3.8.1(b)	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph.
3.2.3 NZS 3604 Clause 7.5.1	2.3.8.2(a)	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph.
3.2.4 NZS 3604 New clause, tables and figures	2.3.8.2(b)	Heading combined with paragraph text. Formatted into a paragraph.
Table 7.4A	Table 7.4A	
Table 7.4B	Table 7.4B	

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B1/AS1 First edition	B1/AS1 Second edition	Comments on B1/AS1 Second edition
Figure 7.2.2	Figure 7.2.2	
Figure 7.2.3	Figure 7.2.3	
4.0 Earth buildings	2.4 Earth buildings	
4.1 NZS 4299	2.4.1 Earth walled buildings	New heading based on scope of the standard.
4.1 [Paragraph text]	2.4.1.1	Rewritten into paragraph format.
4.1.1 NZS 4299, Paragraph 1.3 Definitions	2.4.2 Definitions	
4.1.1 [Paragraph text]	2.4.2.1	Sentence rewritten
4.1.2 NZS 4299, Clause 2.3 Earthquake zones	2.4.3 Earthquake zones	
4.1.2 [Paragraph text]	2.4.3.1	Sentence rewritten
4.1.3 NZS 4299, Figure 2.1 Earthquake zones	2.4.3.2	Sentence rewritten
4.1.4 NZS 4299, Clause 4.8.6	2.4.4 Concrete slab-on-ground floors	New heading based on content of the modification in NZS 4299.
4.1.4 [Paragraph text]	2.4.4.1	Sentence rewritten
4.1.5 NZS 4299 Foundations where <Relocated to 1.1.2.2> good ground has not been established		Text relocated to 1.1.2.2 to avoid repetition of requirements and make the limitations on foundations clear upfront.
	Part 3. Individual building elements	New heading
5.0 Stucco	3.1 Solid plastering	New heading
	3.1.1 Stucco	
5.1 NZS 4251	3.1.1.1	Rewritten into a sentence and reference changed to NZS 4251.1
6.0 Drains	3.2 Drains	
	3.2.1 Buried pipelines	New heading
6.1 AS/NZS 2566.1, including Amendment 1	3.2.1.1(a)	Rewritten into a sentence based on the scope of the standard
6.2 AS/NZS 2566.2, including Amendments 1, 2 and 3	3.2.1.2(b)	Rewritten into a sentence based on the scope of the standard
6.3 AS/NZS 2032	3.2.1.3(c)	Rewritten into a sentence based on the scope of the standard
6.4 AS/NZS 2033	3.2.1.4(d)	Rewritten into a sentence based on the scope of the standard
7.0 Glazing	3.3 Glazing	
	3.3.1 Glazing in buildings	New heading
	3.3.1.1	New paragraph that references the Building Product Specifications for glazing.

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B1/AS1 First edition	B1/AS1 Second edition	Comments on B1/AS1 Second edition
7.1 NZS 4223.1	<Removed from document>	Replaced with reference to the Building Product Specifications in 3.3.1.1.
7.2 NZS 4223.2	<Removed from document>	Replaced with reference to the Building Product Specifications in 3.3.1.1.
7.3 NZS 4223.3	<Removed from document>	Replaced with reference to the Building Product Specifications in 3.3.1.1.
7.3.1 Clause 22.4.3 modified	<Removed from document>	Replaced with reference to the Building Product Specifications in 3.3.1.1.
7.4 NZS 4223.4	3.3.1.2	Rewritten into paragraph format to introduce the standard.
8.0 Small chimneys	<Heading removed>	
8.0 [Paragraph text]	1.1.2.1	Relocated to Introduction as part of out of scope items and rewritten.
9.0 Steel	2.2 Steel	
	2.2.1 Light steel frame	New heading based on the scope of the NASH standard
9.1 NASH Standard Part 2 Light steel Framed buildings	2.2.1.1	Rewritten into paragraph format.
References	Appendix A. References	
Reference entries	Add NZS 4431:1989	Referenced in 2.3.8.2
Reference entries	Add AS 2870:2011	Referenced in 2.3.8.1 Comment and 2.3.8.2
Reference entries	Add BRANZ Study report 120A	Referenced in 2.3.8.2 Comment
Definitions	Appendix B. Definitions	
Definition entries	Add definition for construct	Add definition used in the document.
Definition entries	Remove adequate, alter, baluster, chimney jambs, chimney back, concealed space, gather, hearth, intended use, nominal pile width, notional boundary, other property, sitework, strength reduction factor, surface water, verification method	Remove definitions not used in the document.
Definition good ground	Definition good ground	Repeated into the main document as well.

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