

Get to know E2/VM1 Fourth edition

INFORMATION ON THE NEW EDITION OF THE VERIFICATION METHOD

On 28 July 2025, MBIE published Verification Method E2/VM1 Fourth Edition.

If you have used E2/VM1 in the past, you may see some changes in the new version.



New layout

Since 2021, MBIE has been publishing new editions of the acceptable solutions and verification 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, some of the headings and paragraph numbers in E2/VM1 have changed to fit in the new layout.



Building Product Specifications

The verification method 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 verification method.



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. Portions have also been revised to reflect current practices for drafting the text.

We have provided the table on the follow pages to outline the differences between the Third edition and Fourth 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 verification method itself takes precedence.

The previous edition of E2/VM1 can still be used to demonstrate compliance with the Building Code until 31 July 2026 and existing verification certificates issued under the previous version remain in effect.

Information on the fourth edition

E2/VM1 Third edition	E2/VM1 Fourth edition	Comments on E2/VM1 Fourth edition
Document title: <none>	Document title: Cladding systems of buildings up to 10 m in height, including junctions with windows, doors and other penetrations	Previous heading in 1.0 becomes the title of the document to align with E2/VM2.
1.0 Cladding systems of buildings up to 10 m in height, including junctions with windows, doors and other penetrations	Part.1 General	
1.1 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
	1.1.1.1	New paragraph setting out the two parts of the verification method
	1.1.1.2	New paragraph to reference the limitations of the test methods in Part 2 and Part 3.
1.1 [First paragraph]	2.1.1.1	Revised to simplify the text. Reference to clause E2.3.2 moved to new paragraph 1.1.3.1.
1.1 [Second paragraph]	1.2.1.1	Moved to new Subsection 1.2.1 Test facilities, along with comment box
1.2 Scope	2.1.1 Limitations	Relocated to Part 2 for wall cladding systems.
1.2.1	2.1.1.2	
1.2.1 a) [First portion]	2.1.1.2(a)(i)	
	2.1.1.2(b)	Portion of scope of buildings from E2/AS1.
1.2.1 a) [Second portion]	2.1.1.2(c)(i)	
1.2.1 b)	2.1.1.2(d)	
1.2.1 c)	2.1.1.2(e)	Reference to NZS 4211 replaced with reference the Building Product Specifications.
1.2.1 d)	2.1.1.2(a)(ii)	Re-drafted as part of the list.
1.2.2	2.1.1.2(c)(ii)	Re-drafted to simply the text and format as part of the list.
	1.1.2 Items outside the scope of this document	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs.

Information on the fourth edition

E2/VM1 Third edition	E2/VM1 Fourth edition	Comments on E2/VM1 Fourth edition
3.1	1.1.2.1	Scope limitation previously stated in 3.1
	1.1.3 Compliance pathway	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs
	1.1.3.1	Incorporates previous 1.1 [First paragraph]. Revised to reflect the two independent parts of the verification method
	1.1.3.2	New paragraph on alternative means to demonstrate compliance.
	1.2 Using this verification method	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs
	1.2.1 Test facilities	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs
	1.2.1.1	Relocated from previous 1.1
	1.2.2 Building Product Specifications	New subsection on the Building Product Specifications
	1.2.2.1	New paragraph on the scope of the Building Product Specifications.
	1.2.2.2	New paragraph on the compliance pathway using the Building Product Specifications.
	Part 2. Wall cladding systems	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs
	2.1 Demonstrating compliance	New heading to align with drafting of other AS/VMs. Content of this section is combined from relevant portions of previous 1.2, 1.4, and 1.5.
1.3 Specimen details	2.2 Specimen details	
	2.2.1 Minimum specimen requirements	New heading
1.3 [First paragraph]	2.2.1.1	
1.3 [Second paragraph, first sentence]	2.2.2.1	Relocated to new subsection regarding underlay requirements. Formatted into a list.
1.3 [Second paragraph, second sentence]	2.2.2.2	Rewritten into paragraph format.

Information on the fourth edition

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1.3 [Third paragraph]	2.2.1.2	Re-drafted to simplify the text. Portions of the text formatted as a comment box.
	2.2.2 Underlay requirements for installation and testing	New heading on underlay requirements.
1.3.1 Class 1	2.2.2 Class 1 cladding systems	
1.3.1 [First paragraph]	2.2.2.1	Formatted as a list.
1.3.1 [Second paragraph]	2.2.2.2	Formatted as a list
1.3.2 Class 2	2.2.3 Class 2 cladding systems	
1.3.2 [First and second paragraph]	2.2.3.1	Revised to simplify the text.
1.3.2 a)	2.2.3.2	Formatted into a list
1.3.2 b)	2.2.3.4	Moved content on optional test specimen details to come after all mandatory details. Comment box text simplified.
1.3.2 [Third paragraph]	2.2.3.3	Revised for clarity
1.3.2.1	2.2.5.1	Revised for clarity and to avoid long sentences.
1.4 Test procedure	2.3 Test procedure	
1.4 [First paragraph]	2.1.2.1	Revised format/minor edits for clarity/consistency
	2.1.2.2	Appendix C text moved here to reflect requirement. New comment box reflects the general expectation that this requirement will only form one part of the test report
1.4.1 Preconditioning	2.3.1 Preconditioning	
1.4.1	2.3.1.1	Rewritten into paragraph format
1.4.2 Series 1 Static Pressure Water Penetration	2.3.2 Series 1 static pressure water penetration test	
1.4.2	2.3.2.1	Rewritten into paragraph format.
1.4.3 Series 1 cyclic pressure water penetration	2.3.3 Series 1 Cyclic Pressure Water Penetration test	
1.4.3	2.3.3.1	Rewritten into paragraph format.
1.4.4 Series 2 'Water management testing'	2.3.4 Series 2: Water management testing procedure	
1.4.4 [First paragraph]	2.3.4.1	Revised format/minor edits for clarity/consistency

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1.4.4 [Second paragraph]	Comment box after 2.3.4.1	Paragraph re-formatted as a comment.
1.4.4.1	2.3.4.2	
1.4.5 Series 3 'Wetwall test'	2.3.5 Series 3 wetwall test	
	2.3.5.1	New paragraph to re-state the test.
1.4.5.1	2.3.5.2	Rewritten into paragraph format.
1.5 Non-compliance	2.1.2 Verification of the wall cladding system	Relevant paragraphs relocated to section on demonstrating compliance.
1.5.1	2.1.2.4	Relocated after description of compliance.
1.5.2 [First paragraph]	2.1.2.3	Re-written to simply the text and format into a list.
1.5.2 [Second paragraph]	2.1.2.5	
	2.4 Transitional provisions	New heading
1.6 Existing verification certificates as at 31 March 2019	2.4.1 Existing verification certificates remain in effect	Heading revised
1.6.1	<Removed from document>	
1.6.2	2.4.1.1	Rewritten to state the transitional provisions from previous versions of E2/VM1.
1.7 Pro-forma for test details	<Heading removed from document>	
1.7 [First paragraph]	2.2.1.2	
2.0 Pitched roofing systems over a ventilated roof space of 15° pitch or more	Part 3. Roof cladding systems	
	3.1 Demonstrating compliance	
	3.1.1 Limitations	New heading
	3.1.1 Verification of the roof cladding system	New heading
2.1 [First sentence, first part]	3.2.1.1	Rewritten into paragraph format
2.1 [First sentence, second part of scope]	3.1.1.1(a)	Portion of text relocated to the limitations and formatted into a list.
2.1 [Second and third sentences]	3.2.1.2	Rewritten to simplify the text.
2.1 [Last sentence]	3.1.1.1(b)	Relocated to the limitations.
3.0 Skillion roofs and commercial and industrial roofing	<Heading removed>	

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3.1	3.1.1.2	Rewritten as a list.
Appendix 1: Pro forma	Appendix C: Test results	Appendix table reformatted to fit within the structure of the document.

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For more information, visit building.govt.nz

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