



Get to know H1/VM1 Sixth edition

INFORMATION ON THE NEW EDITION OF THE VERIFICATION METHOD

On 27 November 2025, MBIE published Verification Method H1/VM1 Sixth edition.

If you have used H1/VM1 in the past, you will see some changes in the new version.



Updates following consultation

On 3 July 2025, MBIE announced part of the outcome of consultation on Acceptable Solutions H1/AS1 and H1/AS2 and Verification Methods H1/VM1 and H1/VM2. Following the consultation, the Schedule Method has been removed from H1/AS1. Other changes have been made to the Modelling Method in H1/VM1 to make it clearer in its use.



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 verification method that do not affect the level of performance required 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 Sixth edition and the Fifth edition Amendment 1 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 H1/VM1 can still be used to demonstrate compliance with the Building Code until 26 November 2026.

Information on the sixth edition

H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
Part 1. General	Part 1. General	
1.1 Introduction	1.1 Introduction	
1.1.1 Scope of this document	1.1.1 Scope of this document	
1.1.1.1	1.1.1.1	Minor revision post-consultation to improve clarity. Comment box revised as proposed in consultation, with additional post-consultation wording added to improve clarity.
1.1.1.2	<Paragraph removed from document>	Paragraph removed as it is redundant with text in Subsection 1.1.3 Compliance pathway.
1.1.2 Items outside the scope of this document	1.1.2 Items outside the scope of this document	
1.1.2.1	1.1.2.1	Revised post-consultation to improve clarity.
1.1.2.2	1.1.3.3	Paragraph relocated to Subsection 1.1.3 as it describes part of the compliance pathway.
1.1.3 Compliance pathway	1.1.3 Compliance pathway	
1.1.3.1	1.1.3.1	Paragraph revised to summarise the compliance pathway in this document and to replace Table 1.1.3.2.
1.1.3.2	<Removed from document>	
Table 1.1.3.2	<Removed from document>	Replaced with additional text in Paragraph 1.1.3.1.
1.1.3.3	1.1.3.2	Italics removed from BPI as it is no longer defined in this document.
	1.1.3.3	Relocated from 1.1.2.2
	1.1.3.4	New paragraph on compliance for HVAC systems added to align with similar wording in H1/AS1, H1/AS2, and H1/VM2.
1.2 Using this verification method	1.2 Using this verification method	
1.2.1 Determining the classified use	1.2.1 Determining the classified use	
1.2.1.1	1.2.1.1	
1.2.1.2	<Removed from document>	Removed to align with H1/AS1 and H1/AS2.

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
1.2.2 Determining the area of the building	1.2.2 Determining the area of the building	
1.2.2.1	1.2.2.1	
1.2.2.2	1.2.2.2	Revised as proposed in consultation document with a minor edit to the wording of the exclusion.
	1.2.2.3	New paragraph added for the calculation of floor area for mixed-use buildings as proposed in the consultation document.
	1.2.3 Building Product Specifications	New subsection to introduce 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.
Part 2. Building thermal envelope	Part 2. Building thermal envelope	
2.1 Thermal resistance	2.1 Thermal resistance	
2.1.1 Demonstrating compliance	2.1.1 Overview	Revised heading name to align with other AS/VM documents.
2.1.1.1	2.1.1.1	Paragraph and comment box revised as proposed in consultation document, with a additional edits to improve clarity.
	2.1.1.2	New paragraph referring to Subsection 2.1.2 for determining construction R-values of building elements.
	2.1.1.3	New paragraph on the installation of insulation materials to align with H1/AS1.
2.1.2 Modelling method for verification of the design	2. 2 Modelling method – General requirements	Content relating to the Modelling method has been restructured, incorporating all content from the previous Appendix D into Part 2. Building thermal envelope.
2.1.2.1	2.2.1.1	Revised as proposed in the consultation document.

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
2.1.2.2	2.2.1.3 2.3.1.2	Text split and relocated across two paragraphs and revised as a consequence of the restructuring of Modelling method content in the document.
Table 2.1.2.2A	Table 2.2.1.8	Table notes revised as proposed in the consultation document to remove references to requirements prior to 1 May 2023. Additional table note added to reduce repetition in table column headings. Table note (2) revised post-consultation to simplify the requirement.
Table 2.1.2.2B	Table 2.3.1.2	R-values for walls revised as proposed in the consultation document. Table header revised to improve clarity. Table notes revised as proposed in the consultation document to remove references to requirements prior to 1 May 2023. Additional table note added to reduce repetition in table column headings.
Table 2.1.2.2C	<Table removed>	Table removed as proposed in the consultation document to remove references to requirements prior to 1 May 2023.
2.1.2.3	2.2.1.7	Relocated and revised to improve clarity.
2.1.2.4	2.2.1.8	Revised as proposed in the consultation document, with additional post-consultation edits to improve clarity and to align with wording in H1/VM2.
2.1.3 Determining the thermal resistance	2.1.2 Determining the thermal resistance	

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
2.1.3.1 2.1.3.3	2.1.2.1	Two original paragraphs combined and edited post-consultation to include buildings with earth walls and for improved clarity, incorporating changes that were proposed in the consultation document.
	2.1.3.2	New paragraph added to modify NZS 4214 as proposed in the consultation document, with additional post-consultation changes to improve clarity.
2.1.3.2	2.1.3.3	Amended to reference the Building Production Specifications.
Appendix A. References	Appendix A. References	
	Reference entry for NZS 4299	Added to document post-consultation to include buildings with earth walls.
Reference entry for AS/NZS 4859.1	<Removed from document>	Removed from document as a consequence of referencing the Building Product Specifications.
Reference entry for ISO 13789	<Removed from document>	Removed from document post-consultation as relevant content has been included directly in the document.
Reference entry for ALF 4.0	<Removed from document>	Removed from document as proposed in the consultation document.
Reference entry for BRANZ House insulation guide 5 th edition	Reference entry for BRANZ House insulation guide 6 th edition	Revised as proposed in the consultation document, with post-consultation update to release date.
Reference entry for NIWA Temperature normals	<Removed from document>	Removed from document as proposed in the consultation document.
Copyright statement	Copyright statement	Changes to “licence” not included from consultation document as “license” is not the proper spelling for New Zealand English.
Appendix B. Definitions	Appendix B. Definitions	

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
Definition entries for: Approved temperature data Building Performance Index Heating degrees Heating degrees total Heating energy Heating month Persons Shading coefficient	<Removed from document>	Removed from document as proposed in the consultation document as these terms are not used in the document.
Definition entries for: Conditioned space	Definition entries for: Conditioned space	Revised as proposed in the consultation document.
Definition entries for: Curtain walling External wall Heated ceiling, wall, or floor Solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) Thermal envelope	Definition entries for: Curtain walling External wall Heated ceiling, heated wall, heated floor Solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) Thermal envelope	Partially revised post-consultation to improve clarity.
Definition entries for: Roof area Wall area	Definition entries for: Net roof area Net wall area	Partially revised as proposed in the consultation document except that reference to ISO 13789 has not been included in the definition. Names of these defined terms changed post-consultation for improved clarity.
Definition entries for: Glazing area Total roof area Total wall area	Definition entries for: Wall glazing area Gross roof area Gross wall area	Names of these defined terms changed post-consultation for improved clarity.
Definition entry for: Default values	Definition entry for: Default values	Revised to remove reference to a discretionary provision.
	Definition entries for: Foil insulation Wall framing fraction	New definitions added post-consultation to improve clarity.
Definition entry for: Network utility operator	<Removed from document>	Removed from document as proposed as this term is not used in the verification method.
Appendix C. New Zealand climate zones	Appendix C. New Zealand climate zones and weather files	Title amended to reflect the revised content of the appendix.
C.1 Climate zones	C.1 Climate zones	
C.1.1 Climate zone boundaries	C.1.1 Climate zone boundaries	
C.1.1.1	C.1.1.1	

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
C.1.1.2	C.1.1.2	
Table C.1.1.2	Table C.1.1.2	
Figure C.1.1.2	Figure C.1.1.2	
	C.2 Weather files	New section added to appendix. This was proposed as a new Appendix G in the consultation document.
	C.2.1 Selecting weather files for building sites	New heading added as proposed in consultation document.
	C.2.1.1	New paragraph added with text proposed in consultation document.
	Table C.2.1.1	New table of weather files added as proposed in consultation document.
Appendix D. Modelling method – Building energy use comparison	<Removed from document>	Content from previous Appendix D incorporated in Part 2. Building thermal envelope.
D.1 Modelling requirements	2.2 Modelling method – General requirements	
D.1.1 Overview	2.2.1 Overview	
D.1.1.1	2.2.1.2	Paragraph amended post-consultation to improve clarity.
D.1.1.2	<Removed from document>	Paragraph removed from document as the essence of its requirement is covered in Paragraph 2.2.2.1.
D.1.2 Modelling principles	2.2.2 Modelling principles	
D.1.2.1	2.2.2.1	
D.1.2.2	2.2.2.2	
D.1.2.3	2.2.2.3	
D.1.2.4	2.2.2.4	
D.1.2.5	2.2.1.3 Comment	Paragraph moved into a comment box as it does not specify a requirement for compliance.
D.1.3 Modelling software	2.2.3 Modelling software	
D.1.3.1	2.2.3.1	
D.1.4 Default values	2.2.4 Default values	

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
D.1.4.1	2.2.4.1	Wording revised to remove reference to ‘discretionary’ provisions and to cross-reference requirements for documentation.
D.1.4.2	2.2.4.2	Wording revised to remove reference to ‘discretionary’ provisions
D.1.4.3	2.2.4.3	List revised to align with H1/VM2, improve clarity and remove excess commas.
D.1.5 Climate data	2.2.5 Climate data	
D.1.5.1	2.2.5.1	Paragraph amended as proposed in the consultation document.
D.1.6 Thermal zones	2.2.6 Thermal zones	
D.1.6.1	2.2.6.1	
D.1.6.2	2.2.6.2	
D.1.6.3	2.2.6.3	
D.1.6.4	2.2.6.4	
D.1.6.5	2.2.6.5	
D.1.6.6	2.2.6.6	
D.1.6.7	2.2.6.7	
D.1.6.8	2.2.6.8	
D.1.6.9	2.2.6.9	
D.1.7 Adjoining spaces	2.2.7 Adjoining spaces	
D.1.7.1	2.2.7.1	
D.1.7.2	2.3.6.4	Paragraph amended as proposed in the consultation document. Units (m ² ·K/W) added to the value 0.5.
D.1.8 Thermal mass	2.2.8 Thermal mass	
D.1.8.1	2.2.8.1	Paragraph revised and comment added post-consultation to improve clarity.
D.1.9 Thermal mass of contents	2.2.9 Thermal mass of contents	
D.1.9.1	2.2.9.1	
D.1.10 Floor coverings	2.2.10 Floor coverings	

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
D.1.10.1	2.2.10.1	Paragraph amended as proposed in the consultation document.
D.1.11 Shading	2.2.11 Shading	
D.1.11.1	2.2.11.1	Paragraph amended as proposed in the consultation document.
D.1.11.2	2.2.11.2	
D.1.12 Incidental shading	2.2.12 Incidental shading	
D.1.12.1	2.2.12.1	
D.1.12.2	2.2.12.2	
D.1.13 Infiltration	2.2.13 Infiltration	
D.1.13.1	2.2.13.1	
D.2 Thermal envelope	2.3 Thermal envelope modelling	Heading revised to improve clarity.
D.2.1 Thermal envelope building elements	2.3.1 Thermal envelope building elements	
D.2.1.1	2.3.1.1	
	2.3.1.2	New paragraph added post-consultation that partially incorporates content from the previous Paragraph 2.1.2.2.
D.2.1.2	2.3.1.4	Wording revised post-consultation to improve clarity.
	2.3.1.3	New paragraph added for the calculation of the net roof area, thermal envelope floor area, and net wall area. This text was previously proposed in the consultation as amendments to the definitions of these terms and as a comment box, with additional revisions to improve clarity and remove an unnecessary citation of ISO 13789.
D.2.1.3	2.3.1.5	
	2.3.2 Slab-on-ground floors	New sub-section for improved readability of the document.

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
D.2.1.4	2.3.2.1	Paragraph amended as proposed in the consultation document, with a further post-consultation edit to improve clarity.
D.2.2 Glazing	2.3.3 Glazing	
D.2.2.1	2.3.3.1 2.3.3.2	Paragraph split to improve clarity. Wording revised to remove reference to 'discretionary' provisions, and to reflect the change of the defined terms total wall area to gross wall area, and glazing area to wall glazing area.
D.2.2.2	2.3.3.3	Formatted into a list, and total wall area changed to gross wall area, and glazing area changed to wall glazing area to reflect the changes in these defined terms' name.
	2.3.3.4	New paragraph added as proposed in the consultation document, with additional post-consultation edits to improve clarity and to specify the reference building's SHGC as a single value instead of a range.
D.2.3 Skylights	2.3.4 Skylights	
D.2.3.1	2.3.4.1	
D.2.4 Door area	2.3.5 Door area	
D.2.4.1	2.3.5.1	Paragraph amended as proposed in the consultation document. Wording revised to improve clarity and to remove reference to 'discretionary' provisions.
	2.3.6 Internal building elements	New subsection on the modelling of internal building elements.
	2.3.6.1	New paragraph on the modelling of internal building elements in the proposed building.
	2.3.6.2	New paragraph on the modelling of internal building elements in the reference building.

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
	2.3.6.3	New paragraph on the construction R-values of internal building elements in the reference building.
D.1.7.2	2.3.6.4	Paragraph amended as proposed in the consultation document. Units (m ² ·K/W) added to the value 0.5.
D.3 Space conditioning	2.4 Space conditioning modelling	
D.3.1 Control temperatures	2.4.1 Control temperatures and schedules	Heading change to improve clarity.
D.3.1.1	2.4.1.1	Paragraph amended as proposed in the consultation document, with additional post-consultation edits to improve clarity of passive cooling modelling requirements.
D.3.1.2	2.4.1.2	Minor edit post-consultation.
D.3.2 Fresh air ventilation	2.4.2 Fresh air ventilation	
D.3.2.1	2.4.2.1	
D.3.3 Conditioning system modelling	2.4.3 Conditioning system modelling	
D.3.3.1	2.4.3.1	Minor edit post-consultation to improve clarity.
D.4 Internal loads	2.5 Internal gains modelling	Heading change to improve clarity.
D.4.1 Lighting	2.5.1 Lighting	
D.4.1.1	2.5.1.1	Wording revised post-consultation to improve clarity.
D.4.2 Domestic hot water	2.5.2 Domestic hot water	
D.4.2.1	2.5.2.1	Wording revised post-consultation to improve clarity.
D.4.3 Occupant and plug loads	2.5.3 Occupants and plug loads	
D.4.3.1	2.5.3.1	Wording revised post-consultation to improve clarity.

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H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
D.4.3.2	2.5.3.2	Sentence added post-consultation to clarify that internal gains are to be modelled the same for the reference and proposed buildings. Comment amended as proposed in the consultation document.
D.4.3.3	2.5.3.3	
D.4.4 Process loads	2.5.4 Process loads	
D.4.4.1	2.5.4.1	Heat loads changed to internal gains for improved clarity and consistency of wording.
D.4.4.2	2.5.4.2	
D.5 Reference building	<Removed from document>	
D.5.1 Schedules	<Removed from document>	
D.5.1.1	<Removed from document>	
Table D.5.1.1	Table 2.5.3.1	Table note 1 amended as proposed in the consultation document. Table note 2 removed as equivalent content is now included directly in the table and in Paragraph 2.5.2.1.
D.5.1.2	<Removed from document>	
Table D.5.1.2A	Table 2.5.3.1A	Table header revised for improved clarity. Occupancy load schedule for 12 am to 8 am amended as proposed in the consultation document. Table column headings re-formatted for clarity. Values converted from percentages to decimals.
Table D.5.1.2B	Table 2.5.3.1B	Table header revised for improved clarity. Table column headings re-formatted for clarity. Values converted from percentages to decimals.
Table D.5.1.2C	Table 2.5.3.1C	Table header revised for improved clarity. Table column headings re-formatted for clarity. Values converted from percentages to decimals.

Information on the sixth edition

H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
Table D.5.1.2D	Table 2.5.3.1D	Table header revised for improved clarity. Table column headings re-formatted for clarity. Values converted from percentages to decimals.
D.6 Documentation	2.6 Documentation	
D.6.1 Documentation of analysis	2.6.1 Documentation of analysis	
D.6.1.1	2.6.1.1	Paragraph amended as proposed in the consultation document.
Appendix E. Windows, doors, skylights, and curtain walling	Appendix D. Windows, doors, skylights, and curtain walling	
E.1 Vertical windows and doors	D.1 Vertical windows and doors	
E.1.1 Methods for determining construction R-values	D.1.1 Methods for determining construction R-values	
E.1.1.1	D.1.1.1	
E.1.2 Calculation of the construction R-value of each individual window and door that is part of the thermal envelope	D.1.2 Calculation of the construction R-value of each individual window and door that is part of the thermal envelope	
E.1.2.1	D.1.2.1	
E.1.2.2	D.1.2.2	
E.1.2.3	D.1.2.3	
E.1.2.4	D.1.2.4	
E.1.3 Calculation of the representative construction R-value of all windows and doors that are part of the thermal envelope	D.1.3 Calculation of the representative construction R-value of all windows and doors that are part of the thermal envelope	
E.1.3.1	D.1.3.1	
E.2 Skylights	D.2 Skylights	
E.2.1 Construction R-values	D.2.1 Construction R-values	
E.2.1.1	D.2.1.1	
E.2.1.2	D.2.1.2	
E.3 Curtain walling	D.3 Curtain walling	
E.3.1 Construction R-value	D.3.1 Construction R-value	
E.3.1.1	D.3.1.1	
Appendix F. Thermal resistance of slab-on-ground floors	Appendix E. Thermal resistance of slab-on-ground floors	
F.1 Construction R-values	E.1 Construction R-values	

Information on the sixth edition

H1/VM1 Fifth edition Reference	H1/VM1 Sixth edition Reference	Changes to H1/VM1 Sixth edition
F.1.1 Methods for determining construction R-values for slab-on-ground floors	E.1.1 Methods for determining construction R-values for slab-on-ground floors	
F.1.1.1	E.1.1.1	Minor edit post-consultation to improve clarity.
F.1.1.2	E.1.1.2	
F.1.2 Calculating slab-on-ground floor R-values	E.1.2 Calculating slab-on-ground floor R-values	
F.1.2.1	E.1.2.1	
F.1.2.2	E.1.2.2	
F.1.2.3	E.1.2.3	Reference to ISO 13789 removed and replaced by additional explanatory wording post-consultation.
F.1.2.4	E.1.2.4	
F.1.2.5	E.1.2.5	
F.1.2.6	E.1.2.6	
F.1.2.7	E.1.2.7	

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ISBN (online) 978-1-991409-88-1

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