

E2 External Moisture

Acceptable Solution E2/AS3

**External moisture provisions for
concrete and concrete masonry
buildings**

FOURTH EDITION | EFFECTIVE 28 JULY 2025



Preface

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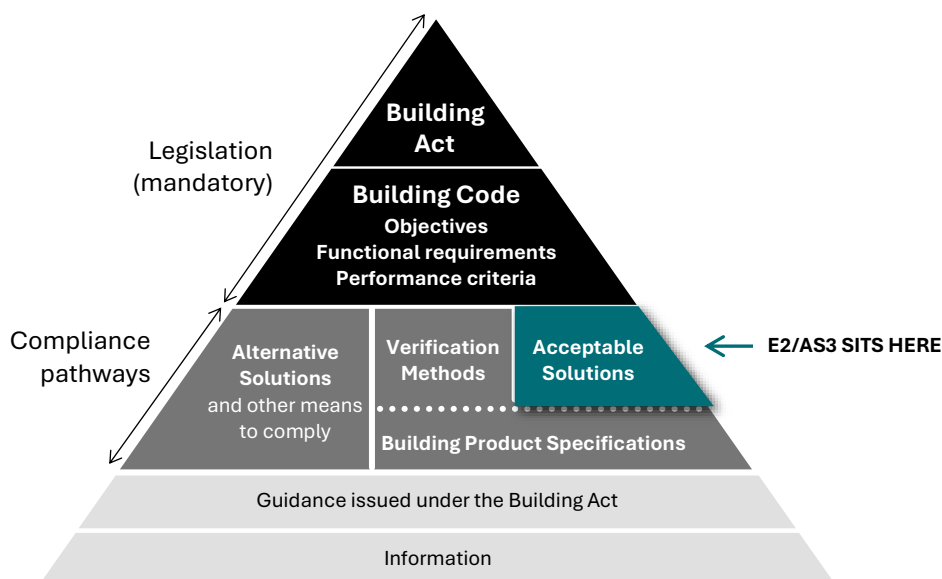
Document status

This document (E2/AS3) is an acceptable solution issued under section 22 (1) of the Building Act 2004 and is effective on 28 July 2025. It does not apply to building consent applications submitted before 28 July 2025. The previous Acceptable Solution E2/AS3 Third Edition, as amended, can be used to show compliance until 31 July 2026 and can be used for building consent applications submitted before 1 August 2026.

Building Code regulatory system

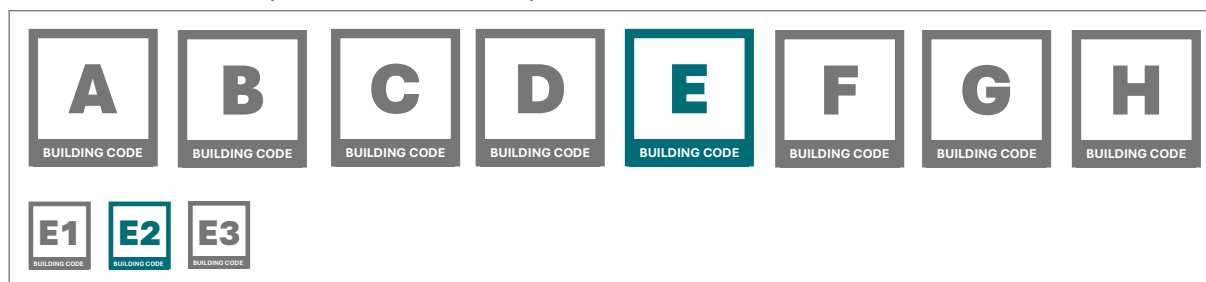
Each acceptable solution outlines the provisions of the Building Code that it relates to. Complying with an acceptable solution or verification method are ways of complying with that part of the Building Code. Other options for establishing compliance are listed in [section 19 of the Building Act](#).

Schematic of the Building Code system



A building design must take into account all parts of the Building Code. The Building Code is located in Schedule 1 of the Building Regulations 1992 and available online at www.legislation.govt.nz.

The part of the Building Code that this acceptable solution relates to is clause E2 External Moisture. Information on the scope of this document is provided in [Part 1. General](#).



Further information about the Building Code, including objectives, functional requirements, performance criteria, acceptable solutions, and verification methods, is available at www.building.govt.nz.

Main changes in this version and features of this document

Main changes in this version

This acceptable solution is the third edition of E2/AS3. The main changes from the previous version are:

- The document has been published in a standalone format and the layout has been revised to improve clarity. This includes using a common structure for headings, paragraph text, table numberings, and figure numbering throughout the acceptable solution.
- A title of the document has been provided to the document to reflect the scope of the acceptable solution. Additional information on the document and its scope is provided in [Part 1. General](#).
- References have been revised to reflect the documents cited in this acceptable solution in [Appendix A](#).
- Definitions have been revised to reflect the terms used in this acceptable solution in [Appendix B](#).

People using this document should check for amendments on a regular basis. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment may amend any part of any acceptable solution or verification method at any time. Up-to-date versions of acceptable solutions or verification methods are available from www.building.govt.nz.

Features of this document

- For the purposes of Building Code compliance, the standards and documents referenced in this acceptable solution must be the editions, along with their specific amendments listed in [Appendix A](#).
- Words in *italic* are defined at the end of this document in [Appendix B](#).
- Hyperlinks are provided to cross-references within this document and to external websites and appear with a [blue underline](#).
- Appendices to this acceptable solution are part of, and have equal status to, the acceptable solution.
- A consistent number system has been used throughout this document. The first number indicates the Part of the document, the second indicates the Section in the Part, the third is the Subsection, and the fourth is the Paragraph. This structure is illustrated as follows:

2	Part
2.5	Section
2.5.3	Subsection
2.5.3.1	Paragraph
2.5.3.1(a)	Paragraph (as a portion of the relevant paragraph)
2.5.3.1(a)(i)	Paragraph (as a portion of the relevant paragraph)

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General

Part 1. General

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Scope of this document

1.1.1.1 This acceptable solution covers external moisture provisions for concrete and concrete masonry *buildings*. It is limited to *buildings* within the scope of CP01.

1.1.2 Compliance pathway

1.1.2.1 This acceptable solution is one option that provides a means of demonstrating compliance with the functional requirements and performance criteria in Building Code clause E2 External Moisture. It can be used to demonstrate compliance with the performance clauses:

- a) E2.3.1 for shedding water; and
- b) E2.3.2 for the penetration of water; and
- c) E2.3.3 for contact with or proximity to the ground; and
- d) E2.3.4 for suspended floors; and
- e) E2.3.5 for *concealed spaces* and cavities; and
- f) E2.3.6 for *construction* moisture; and
- g) E2.3.7 for the due allowance for:
 - i) the consequences of failure, and
 - ii) the uncertainties in *construction*, and
 - iii) variations relating to the materials and the site.

1.1.2.2 If this acceptable solution cannot be followed in full, use an alternative means to demonstrate compliance.

Part 2. Concrete and concrete masonry construction

2.1 Demonstrating compliance

2.1.1 Overview

2.1.1.1 Concrete and concrete masonry *construction* shall comply with Concrete NZ CP01.

COMMENT: While CP01 was revised in 2022, the 2014 version incorporating errata 1 is cited in this acceptable solution. Using the 2022 version to demonstrate compliance with the Building Code is considered as an alternative solution.

References and Definitions

Appendix A. References

For the purposes of Building Code compliance, the document referenced in this acceptable solution must be the edition listed below.

Concrete New Zealand

CP01:2014 Incorporating errata 1 Concrete NZ, Code of Practice for weathertight concrete and concrete masonry construction, incorporating errata 1, January 2015

Where quoted

[1.1.1.1](#), [2.1.1.1](#)

This document can be accessed from <http://www.concretenz.org.nz>.

Appendix B. Definitions

These definitions are specific to this acceptable solution. Other defined terms italicised within the definitions are provided in clause A2 of the Building Code.

Term	Definition
Building	Has the meaning given to it by sections 8 and 9 of the Building Act 2004.
Concealed space	Any part of the space within a <i>building</i> , excluding <i>protected shafts</i> , that cannot be seen from an <i>occupied space</i> .
Construct	In relation to a <i>building</i> , includes to design, build, erect, prefabricate, and relocate the <i>building</i> ; and construction has a corresponding meaning.

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