

Designers

This guide provides step-by-step instructions to use the self-certification for plumbing and drainlaying scheme. It clarifies roles and responsibilities for key parties and explains important steps and considerations.



1 Designer determines whether self-certification may be suitable

The designer will discuss the project with the owner and project team. Together they will consider whether the proposed plumbing and drainlaying will qualify for self-certification and whether to use this pathway.

2 The work is designed

The designer prepares plans and specifications that:

- ✓ comply with the Building Code
- ✓ clearly identify the proposed self-certifiable plumbing and drainlaying and what will instead go through the BCA inspection process
- ✓ specify applicable compliance pathways – only plumbing and drainlaying designed to an Acceptable Solution or Verification Method is eligible, unless it's a qualifying on-site system.

The designer should clearly show which work will be self-certified and which work will be inspected by a BCA.

4 Designer supports the building consent application

In the building consent application, the designer must:

- ✓ describe the work proposed to be self-certified and how it's intended to be carried out (whether the endorsed plumber or drainlayer will carry out, assist with, or supervise the plumbing and drainlaying)
- ✓ provide the name of the endorsed plumber or drainlayer, if known
- ✓ provide plans and specifications that will meet the requirements of the Building Code.

3 Designer coordinates with practitioners

The designer will work with:

- ✓ endorsed plumbers
- ✓ endorsed drainlayers
- ✓ engineers
- ✓ other designers

to ensure the proposed scope of self-certification is understood.

5 Designer responds to requests for information

If requested by the BCA, the designer should:

- ✓ clarify design details
- ✓ provide additional information, whether it's about proposed self-certified work or otherwise
- ✓ explain proposed compliance pathways.

6 Design changes are managed

If changes occur during construction, the designer:

- ✓ assesses whether consented drawings need updating
- ✓ supports minor variations or building consent amendment applications where required.

7 Designer updates documentation

Where changes are approved, the designer:

- ✓ revises plans and specifications
- ✓ clearly identifies any changes affecting self-certification.

Self-certification is optional. If plumbing and drainlaying work doesn't require a building consent, it isn't eligible for the scheme. This is because self-certification removes the need for inspections for eligible work listed on the building consent as self-certifiable.