

Seismic design of retaining structures for residential sites in greater Christchurch

[Guidance on the seismic design of retaining walls](#)

[PDF 920 KB]

<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/supplementary-guidance/guidance-on-the-seismic-design-of-retaining-walls.pdf>

The assessment and design of retaining walls guidance.

About this document

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2nd edition

Of interest to Building consent authorities, Designers, Engineers

Introduction

You can use these guidelines primarily for assessing and designing retaining walls for normal risk residential sites in greater Christchurch. High risk walls, including very high walls, are beyond the scope of these guidelines and may require more detailed and specific engineering.

[Repairing and rebuilding houses affected by the Canterbury earthquakes](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/repairing-and-rebuilding-houses-affected-by-the-canterbury-earthquakes/) (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/repairing-and-rebuilding-houses-affected-by-the-canterbury-earthquakes/>) supplementary guidance.

Contents

Worked examples to resist earthquake loading

[Design of cantilever pole retaining walls](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/supplementary-guidance/design-of-cantilever-pole-retaining-walls/) (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/supplementary-guidance/design-of-cantilever-pole-retaining-walls/>)

[Design of concrete cantilever retaining wall](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/supplementary-guidance/design-of-concrete-cantilever-retaining-walls/) (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/supplementary-guidance/design-of-concrete-cantilever-retaining-walls/>)

[Design of crib retaining wall](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/supplementary-guidance/design-of-concrete-crib-retaining-walls/) (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/supplementary-guidance/design-of-concrete-crib-retaining-walls/>)

[Design of a tied-back retaining wall](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/supplementary-guidance/design-of-a-tied-back-retaining-wall/) (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/canterbury-rebuild/supplementary-guidance/design-of-a-tied-back-retaining-wall/>)

We will provide additional worked examples as they are developed.

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- with compliance with the Building Act, it is published under section 175 of the Building Act
- with a Weathertight Services claim, it is published under section 12 of the Weathertight Homes Resolution Services Act 2006.