

D1 Access routes

Safety of entry/exit to the building and the safety of any internal or external stairs.

This clause ensures people can move safely into, within and out of buildings. Access routes include the approach to the main entrance of a building, corridors, doors, stairs, ramps and lifts.

It sets out requirements for:

- slip resistance, stair treads, handrails and cross falls
- people with disabilities to carry out normal functions within buildings
- the movement, loading and parking of vehicles.

Record of amendments (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/how-the-building-code-works/different-ways-to-comply/acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/record-of-amendments/>) is a record of changes to the Acceptable Solutions, Verification Methods and handbooks.

Early childhood education centres

Some ways for Early Childhood Education and Care Centres to meet Building Act and Ministry of Education requirements.

Read about Early childhood education centre guidance (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/specific-buildings/early-childhood-education-centres/>)

Updates



[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-71/compliant-lifts-are-easy-to-use-for-everyone/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-71/compliant-lifts-are-easy-to-use-for-everyone/)

Compliant lifts easy to use for everyone

23 MARCH 2016

Many of us use lifts every day without thinking about their safety or how they operate. However, for someone who is visually impaired, using a lift can be challenging.

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-71/compliant-lifts-are-easy-to-use-for-everyone/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-71/compliant-lifts-are-easy-to-use-for-everyone/)

MBIE to consult twice yearly on changes to the Building Code System

10 AUGUST 2018

MBIE will now consult twice yearly to ensure Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods are up to date.

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/all-news-and-updates/bc-update-237/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/all-news-and-updates/bc-update-237/)

View all related news and updates [\(https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?](https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?bcc%5B%5D=d1-access-routes&area=news-and-updates&show=all&action_doSearch=Search&sort=recent#results)

[bcc%5B%5D=d1-access-routes&area=news-and-updates&show=all&action_doSearch=Search&sort=recent#results\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?bcc%5B%5D=d1-access-routes&area=news-and-updates&show=all&action_doSearch=Search&sort=recent#results)

Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods

Current version

These are issued by MBIE to provide one way of complying with the Building Code and must be accepted by BCAs as demonstrating compliance with the related clauses of the Building Code. Using them is not mandatory.

2nd edition, amendment 6

[PDF 2.1 MB]

Effective from 1 January 2017

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/d-access/d1-access-routes/asvm/d1-access-routes-2nd-edition-amendment6.pdf\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/d-access/d1-access-routes/asvm/d1-access-routes-2nd-edition-amendment6.pdf)

Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/how-the-building-code-works/different-ways-to-comply/acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/how-the-building-code-works/different-ways-to-comply/acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/) (AS and VMs) were called

compliance documents. Some still have the “compliance document” title but the AS or VMs they contain are valid and unaffected by the name change.

Previous versions

2nd edition, amendment 5

[PDF 2.5 MB]

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/d-access/d1-access-routes/asvm/d1-access-routes-amendment-5.pdf\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/d-access/d1-access-routes/asvm/d1-access-routes-amendment-5.pdf)

2nd edition, amendment 5 replacement pages

[PDF 794 KB]

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/d-access/d1-access-routes/asvm/d1-access-routes-amendment-5-rp.pdf\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/d-access/d1-access-routes/asvm/d1-access-routes-amendment-5-rp.pdf)

2nd edition, amendment 4

[PDF 2.4 MB]

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/d-access/d1-access-routes/asvm/d1-access-routes-amendment-4.pdf\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/d-access/d1-access-routes/asvm/d1-access-routes-amendment-4.pdf)

Version history (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/d-access/d1-access-routes/acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/>)

Standards

Standards are frequently referred to in Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods. They provide practical information and guidelines for building solutions.

Over 120 building standards used for Building Code compliance are now available for free download.

See the free standards relating to Code Clause D1 (<https://www.standards.govt.nz/sponsored-standards/building-standards/?buildingcode=D1>).

All standards, including the funded ones, can be accessed through the Standards New Zealand website (<https://www.standards.govt.nz/>).

Guidance

These documents are provided for assistance. They are not intended as a means of establishing compliance with the Building Act or Building Code, and they do not have the same status accorded to Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods under the Act.



(<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/d-access/accessible-buildings/user-activity/>)

1. Building user activity: Designing buildings for access and usability

Understanding how users interact with the built environment is important for designing buildings that best meet the needs of all building users.

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/d-access/accessible-buildings/user-activity/>)



(<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/d-access/accessible-buildings/building-entrances-and-exits/>)

5. Building entrances: Designing buildings for access and usability

Design building entrances so that they are as easy to use as possible for a wide range of people.

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/d-access/accessible-buildings/building-entrances-and-exits/>)

View all related guidance (https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?bcc%5B%5D=d1-access-routes&area=guidance&show=all&action_doSearch=Search&sort=recent#results)

Related Determinations

Determinations are made by MBIE on matters of doubt or dispute to do with building work. Rulings are legally binding in relation to each case. Circumstances in one case may differ to others.

2019/044: Regarding the code compliance of a domestic garage and driveway and the issue of a building consent and code compliance certificate

This determination considers the compliance of a domestic garage and driveway with Building Code Clause D1 Access routes, including whether their dimensions are appropriate for the intended use. It also considers whether the building consent authority was correct to grant the building consent and code compliance certificate, and whether a proposal to widen the garage doorway (from 2.31 m to 2.8 m) would result in compliance.

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2019-044/>)

2019/041: Regarding the provision of an accessible route to a cupola with an elevated viewing platform on a landscaped roof area

This determination considers whether a lift is required to an elevated viewing platform on a landscaped roof area of a building housing an arts centre in order to meet the requirements of the Building Act for reasonable and adequate access for people with disabilities. The determination discusses the definition of "storey" for the purpose of Clause D1.3.4 of the Building Code and whether the cupola in which the viewing platform is housed is an "ancillary" building as defined in Clause A1 of the Building Code.

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2019-041/>)

View 143 Determinations related to Access Routes (https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/?bcc%5B%5D=d1-access-routes&action_doSearch=Search#results)

Related building products

All products, systems and construction methods that have achieved CodeMark status will be listed here with their most up to date certificate.

View 7 certified building products associated with Access Routes (https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/product-assurance-and-multiproof/codemark/product-certificate-register/?&bcc%5B%5D=d1-access-routes&action_doSearch=Search#results)