

Australian Standard[®]

**National Plumbing and Drainage
Code**

Part 4: Hot water supply systems

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee WS/14, National Plumbing and Drainage Code. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 25 July 1994 and published on 19 September 1994.

The following interests are represented on Committee WS/14:

Association of Hydraulic Services Consultants Australia
AUSTAP
Australian Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association
Brisbane City Council
Department of Environment and Planning, Tas.
Department of Housing Local Government Planning, Qld
Department of Lands, Housing and Local Government, N.T.
Electricity Supply Association of Australia
Engineering and Water Supply Department, S.A.
Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association of Australia
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Australia/New Zealand Standards Committee WS/14 on Hot Water Systems to supersede AS 3500.4—1990.

Noise levels have not been included as progress on a unified method of analysis has not been agreed upon and requires further research.

The primary purpose of this Standard is to provide a uniformity of installation practices throughout Australia and to enable the co-ordination of requirements of the various statutory bodies responsible for the installation of water heaters and hot water reticulation. Account has been taken of current regulations stipulated by water, gas and electricity supply authorities and local government bodies in Australia.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

This Standard includes various industrial and editorial revisions according to Standards Australia requirements.

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CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
FOREWORD	6
SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL	
1.1 SCOPE	7
1.2 APPLICATION	7
1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS	7
1.4 DEFINITIONS	8
1.5 CLASSIFICATION OF SOILS	8
1.6 CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDINGS	8
1.7 WATER QUALITY	8
1.8 EQUIVALENT PIPE SIZES	8
1.9 FIRE RESISTANCE LEVEL (FRL)	8
1.10 WATER TEMPERATURE	8
SECTION 2 MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS	
2.1 SCOPE OF SECTION	10
2.2 PIPES AND FITTINGS	10
2.3 CISTERN (COLD WATER STORAGE TANK) MATERIALS	11
2.4 SAFE TRAY AND SAFE WASTES MATERIALS	11
2.5 JOINTING PRODUCTS	11
2.6 BEDDING MATERIAL	12
2.7 BACKFILL MATERIAL	12
2.8 MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS	12
SECTION 3 INSTALLATION OF COLD AND HOT WATER PIPEWORK AND CONTROLS	
3.1 SCOPE OF SECTION	13
3.2 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS	13
3.3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	13
3.4 PROTECTION AGAINST FREEZING	17
3.5 COLD WATER CONTROLS AND PIPING	18
3.6 INSTALLATION OF HOT WATER SUPPLY	21
3.7 THERMOSTATIC MIXING VALVES	24
SECTION 4 INSTALLATION OF WATER HEATERS OTHER THAN SOLAR HEATERS	
4.1 SCOPE OF SECTION	27
4.2 WATER HEATERS	27
4.3 LOCATION	27
4.4 PROTECTION AGAINST DAMAGE FROM LEAKING WATER	27
4.5 SUPPORT	28
4.6 CORROSION PREVENTION AND WEATHER PROTECTION	29
4.7 CONNECTIONS TO WATER HEATERS	30
4.8 PRESSURE RELIEF AND VENTING OF WATER HEATERS AND CONTAINERS	30

	<i>Page</i>
4.9 VALVES	30
4.10 MULTIPLE INSTALLATIONS OF PRESSURE-TYPE STORAGE WATER HEATERS	37
4.11 MULTIPLE INSTANTANEOUS WATER HEATERS	38
4.12 RELIEF AND EXPANSION VALVE DRAIN LINES	38
4.13 VENT PIPES	40
 SECTION 5 SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS	
5.1 SCOPE OF SECTION	52
5.2 GENERAL	52
5.3 INSTALLATION OF SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEM CONTAINER	52
5.4 INSTALLATION OF COLLECTORS	53
5.5 INSTALLATION OF CLOSE-COUPLED AND INTEGRAL SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS	57
5.6 THERMOSIPHON FLOW SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS WITH REMOTE CONTAINERS	58
5.7 SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS WITH FORCED PRIMARY CIRCULATION	58
5.8 SOLAR WATER HEATERS USED AS PREHEATERS	59
5.9 MULTIPLE SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS INSTALLATIONS	60
5.10 SUPPLEMENTARY HEATING	61
5.11 UNCONTROLLED SUPPLEMENTARY HEATERS	61
5.12 INSTALLATION OF SOLAR/ELECTRIC WATER HEATING SYSTEMS	61
5.13 INSTALLATION OF SOLAR/GAS WATER HEATING SYSTEMS	61
5.14 INSTALLATION OF SOLAR/SOLID FUEL WATER HEATING SYSTEMS (INCLUDING SLOW COMBUSTION COOKERS FITTED WITH WATER-HEATING EQUIPMENT)	61
5.15 INSTALLATION OF SOLAR/OIL-FIRED WATER HEATING SYSTEMS	61
 SECTION 6 ENERGY SOURCES AND HEAT RETENTION	
6.1 CONTROLLED ENERGY SOURCES	72
6.2 WATER HEATERS WITH UNCONTROLLED ENERGY SOURCE	72
6.3 HEAT RETENTION	73
 SECTION 7 HOT WATER SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED	
7.1 SCOPE OF SECTION	75
7.2 GENERAL	75
7.3 BASINS	75
7.4 SHOWERS	75
 SECTION 8 TESTING AND COMMISSIONING	
8.1 SCOPE OF SECTION	76
8.2 FLUSHING	76

	<i>Page</i>
8.3 TESTING	76
8.4 COMMISSIONING	76
8.5 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS	76
 SECTION 9 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	
9.1 SCOPE OF SECTION	77
9.2 GENERAL	77
9.3 MAINTENANCE OF HOT WATER SERVICES	77
 APPENDICES	
A REFERENCED DOCUMENTS—MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS	78
B REFERENCED DOCUMENTS—INSTALLATION	79
C REFERENCED DOCUMENTS—MISCELLANEOUS	79
D WATER ANALYSIS	80
E TYPICAL RATES OF FLOW	80
F PREFERRED SIZES OF PIPE FOR NON-CIRCULATORY AVERAGE SINGLE-STOREY TYPE HOUSEHOLD INSTALLATIONS (Copper tube complying with AS 1432)	81
G RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF UNRATED SOLAR HOT WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS	82
H RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF CLOSE-COUPLED AND INTEGRAL SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS ON ROOFS	83
I ESTIMATION OF SHADING OF COLLECTORS	86
J EFFECT OF INCLINATION AND ORIENTATION ON SYSTEM PERFORMANCE	90
K MAP OF REGIONAL BASIC DESIGN WIND SPEEDS	95
L SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS SUGGESTED COMPONENT SIZES (UNRATED SYSTEMS)	96

FOREWORD

The principal requirement of an installation for the supply of hot water is that water at the required temperature and in sufficient quantity is available at the draw-off points with the minimum of delay.

Full collaboration is essential at the planning stage between the architect or owner, the builder, supply undertakings or fuel suppliers, manufacturers, contractors and statutory authorities.

Local information should be obtained regarding energy supply and condition of the water supply, e.g. the scale-forming and corrosive properties of the water.

The location of the water heater should be such as to provide adequate space for both installation and maintenance, and the unit should be suitably sited taking into account the need to keep hot water piping as short as practicable in relation to frequently used draw-off points, and for planned pipe runs, fuelling and fuel storage requirements.

Attention is drawn to the relevant statutory requirements with respect to—

- (a) the qualifications of persons permitted by law to do plumbing and drainage work;
- (b) the administrative procedures to be followed by persons performing plumbing and drainage work; and
- (c) the authorization of certain materials, products, fixtures, fittings and other components for connection to public water supply or sewerage systems.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

National Plumbing and Drainage Code

Part 4: Hot water supply systems

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE This Standard sets out the requirements for the installation of piping and apparatus for single and multiple domestic-type water heaters, from and including the isolating valve on the cold water inlet and the reticulation of hot water.

This Standard applies to the installation of the following types of water heaters which comply with Clause 4.2.1 or Clause 5.3.1:

- (a) Electric storage water heaters with a rated delivery of up to 630 L per heater.
- (b) Other types of storage water heaters with a capacity of up to 700 L per heater.
- (c) Solar water heaters with a capacity of up to 700 L per heater.
- (d) Heat exchange water heaters in accordance with AS 1361.
- (e) Instantaneous water heaters.
- (f) Other water heaters authorized by the relevant regulatory authority.

NOTE: The reference to AS 1361 in Item (d) is made to positively identify the particular type of heat exchange water heater to which this Standard applies.

This Standard applies to hot water systems using potable water only and does not apply to space heating or swimming pool heating.

Illustrations used in this Standard are diagrammatic only and have been chosen without prejudice.

1.2 APPLICATION

1.2.1 General This Standard applies to both new installations and alterations or additions to existing installations.

The Standard shall be read in conjunction with the regulations and any special requirements of the relevant statutory authority.

1.2.2 New materials and methods Alternative materials or methods may be used if proven to be equal to or better than those specifically referred to herein.

1.2.3 Unusual installations Certain installations or portions of installation which are unusual due to particular circumstances or methods, may not be covered in detail by this Standard.

Details of such installations shall be submitted to the relevant Authority who, having regard to all the circumstances, may authorize the installation.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The documents referred to in this Standard are listed in the appendices, as follows:

- (a) *Appendix A—‘Materials and products’.*
- (b) *Appendix B—‘Installation’.*