



Glossary of Key Terms

Introduction to the National Construction Code (NCC)

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- **ABCB (Australian Building Codes Board):** The joint government-industry body responsible for the development and maintenance of the National Construction Code.
- **Amenity:** Features of a building related to its comfort and usability, such as lighting, ventilation, and noise control, addressed by the NCC.
- **Building Classification:** A system (Class 1–10) used by the NCC to group buildings based on their intended use or occupancy, which determines the applicable NCC requirements.
- **Certifier:** A building professional responsible for checking that building work meets the NCC and other relevant regulations before issuing approvals or certificates.
- **Compliance:** Meeting the minimum requirements set out in the National Construction Code, including the mandatory Performance Requirements.
- **CPD (Continuing Professional Development):** Structured learning activities undertaken by professionals to maintain and improve their knowledge and skills, often required for registration or certification.
- **Deemed-to-Satisfy (DTS) Provisions:** Prescriptive methods, materials, or solutions detailed in the NCC that, if followed exactly, are considered to comply with the relevant Performance Requirements.
- **Evidence of Suitability:** Documented proof (such as certificates, test reports, or product statements) that materials, building products, or construction methods meet the requirements of the NCC.

- **Governing Requirements (Section A):** The foundational section of the NCC that sets out the rules for how the Code is to be used, including compliance pathways and evidence requirements.
- **NatHERS (Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme):** A system used to rate the energy efficiency of residential buildings in Australia, referenced by the NCC for energy performance requirements.
- **NCC (National Construction Code):** Australia's primary technical design and construction standard for buildings and plumbing systems, comprising three volumes.
- **Performance Requirements:** Mandatory outcomes that must be achieved by a building or building element under the NCC. They define the required level of performance.
- **Performance Solution:** An alternative method or system for complying with the Performance Requirements of the NCC, used when the Deemed-to-Satisfy provisions are not followed exactly. Requires demonstration of equivalent or better performance.
- **Plumbing Code of Australia (Volume Three):** The volume of the NCC that governs the design, installation, and maintenance of plumbing and drainage systems.
- **Rectification:** The process of correcting building work that does not comply with the NCC or approved plans.
- **Schedules:** Appendices to the NCC containing supplementary information such as definitions, referenced standards, symbols, and state and territory variations.
- **Specifications:** Detailed technical requirements contained within the NCC that are referenced by specific clauses in the main sections.
- **State and Territory Variations:** Amendments or additions to the national NCC provisions introduced by individual state or territory governments to address local conditions or policies.
- **Verification Method:** A test, calculation, model, or assessment method used to demonstrate that a Performance Solution meets the relevant Performance Requirements.
- **Volumes (NCC):** The three main parts of the National Construction Code, each covering different classes of buildings or systems.

- **Whole-of-Home Assessment:** An assessment required for energy efficiency under some NCC provisions (e.g., in Victoria) that considers the energy usage of the entire home, including appliances like heating, cooling, hot water, and lighting.