

# What is Type A Appliance Conversion work?

*A guide to read before you apply for registration*

Do you have the **skills, knowledge and experience** to apply for registration as a plumbing practitioner in the **specialised** class of Type A Appliance Conversion work? To help you, this guide explains some of the typical tasks of Type A Appliance Conversion work. If you are asked to an assessment interview, some of your interview questions will be based on this information.

## Get to know the regulation

Under Part 5 of the Plumbing Regulations 2018, Type A Appliance Conversion work is:

*the adjusting or altering of a type A appliance to operate on a different gas from—*

- (a) the gas that the appliance was originally manufactured to use; or*
- (b) the gas that the appliance had been previously converted to use.*

## Typical Type A Appliance Conversion work

Gas appliances can vary in size, operating pressure and complexity. They range from small domestic gas space heaters to large industrial steam boilers or industrial furnaces. Victoria's *Gas Safety Act 1997* defines gas appliances as either Type A or Type B.

Gasfitting work with these two appliance types differs in nature, complexity and risk. For this reason, gasfitters need to be qualified for, and experienced with, the type of appliance on which they are working. Experienced Type A gasfitting plumbers typically undertake gas conversions of domestic and light commercial appliances (such as cookers, space heaters, water heaters, catering equipment and leisure appliances).

## What do Type A Appliance Conversion plumbers need to know and do?

Type A gasfitters need critical knowledge and skills to ensure the health and safety of the community. What does this mean for you?

As a registered practitioner, you must be able to understand and apply the compliance requirements of Type A Appliance Conversion work. These requirements include AS/NZS 5601.1: Gas Installations.

To undertake Type A Appliance Conversion work to a safe and competent standard, you must also be able to:

- Read a site or building plan and identify gas lines and appropriate locations and clearances
- Adjust or alter a Type A appliance to operate on a different gas from the gas that the appliance was originally manufactured
- Adjust or alter a Type A appliance to operate on a different gas from the gas that the appliance had been previously converted to use
- Understand the difference between Type A and Type B gas appliances.

## What competencies and experience do you need?

The VBA publishes a set of units of competency for each class of plumbing work. Each unit of competency describes a work outcome, all the knowledge and skills needed to do the work to the expected standard, and how the knowledge and skills should be assessed. The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) uses the units of competency to assess your skills and experience if you apply to register in a class of plumbing work.

To be eligible to register in the Type A Appliance Conversion class, you must:

- hold registration in the Gasfitting work class
- successfully complete the VBA's examination of registration competencies for Type A Appliance Conversion work.

Before applying for registration, please read the current approved units of competency for Type A Appliance Conversion.

### Your next step

If you are registered in Gasfitting work and think you have the required skills, knowledge and experience in Type A Appliance Conversion work, then go to the [VBA website](#) to learn how to apply for registration in this specialised class of plumbing work.