

## General GE 14 | Adoption of NCC 2022

### Audience

The audience/s for this Practice Note include/s:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architects/ Designers             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Owner Builders                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Builders                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbers  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Surveyors/ Inspectors    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real estate management agents              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineers                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trades and Maintenance (inc. Electricians) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home Owners / Residential Tenants |  |

### Purpose

This Practice Note provides guidance on the implementation of the NCC 2022 during the transition from NCC 2019 to the NCC 2022 version.

The content below provides guidance on:

- Adoption dates for NCC 2022 (including transitional and delayed implementation arrangements)
- Early voluntary adoption and use of NCC 2022
- Exemptions from the new requirements under section 10 and the application of new building regulations to building work

### Abbreviations & Definitions

The abbreviations and definitions set out below are for guidance only. They are not intended to vary those set out in the Building Act 1993, the Building Regulations 2018 or the National Construction Code.

- **ABCB** – Australian Building Codes Board
- **Act** – Building Act 1993
- **NCC** – National Construction Code, comprising the Building Code of Australia (Volumes One and Two) and Plumbing Code of Australia (Volume Three)
- **NCC 2019 – National Construction Code 2019, Amendment 1 Volume 2**
- **NCC** – National Construction Code 2022 Volumes 1 and 2
- **RBS** – Relevant Building Surveyor
- **Regulations** – Building Regulations 2018



## Adoption dates for NCC 2022

The NCC 2022 came into effect on 1 May 2023 and includes transitional adoption periods for energy efficiency, condensation management and the Livable Housing provisions, which will all be mandatory and be in effect from 1 May 2024.

### Key Dates

#### 1 May 2023

- NCC 2022 adopted
- All provisions in NCC 2022 apply except energy efficiency, condensation management and livable housing requirements:
  - NCC 2019 energy efficiency and condensation management requirements apply.
  - Livable housing requirements do not apply as NCC 2019 does not contain equivalent requirements.

#### 1 May 2024

- NCC 2022 energy efficiency, condensation management and livable housing requirements apply.
- lead free plumbing products and evidence of suitability requirements for plumbing products commences.

The NCC 2022 requirements must be adopted in accordance with the key dates provided above unless an exemption under section 10 of the Act by the RBS to comply with all or parts of the NCC 2019 in lieu of NCC 2022 has been provided.

## Early Voluntary Adoption

The livable housing provisions may be incorporated into a design prior to 1 May 2024 on a voluntary basis, as the livable housing provisions do not exist in NCC 2019 and do not take effect in NCC 2022 until 1 May 2024. After this date the RBS would need to assess and ensure compliance with Part H8 of NCC 2022.

## Transition to lead free plumbing products has started

A 3 year transition period to support the path to reducing allowable lead levels in many plumbing products commenced on 1 May 2023. Clause A5G4 of NCC 2022 Volume Three (Plumbing Code of Australia) specifies that copper alloy plumbing products in contact with drinking water must limit the allowable lead content to a weighted average lead content of not more than 0.25% and this will be compulsory from 1 May 2026.

## Exemptions from the New Requirements under section 10

Where a building has been designed to comply with NCC 2019 but the building permit will be issued after 1 May 2023, an exemption may be given by the RBS for the building to comply with NCC 2019 based on the exemptions under section 10 of the Act. In addition, Minister's Guideline MG-13 offers guidance to the RBS on how and when exemptions can be applied, and should be read in conjunction with section 10 of the Act.



## Related Documentation

- Building Act 1993
- Building Regulations 2018
- Plumbing Regulations 2018
- National Construction Code 2019
- National Construction Code 2022

## List of Amendments

- Updated transition dates

## Document history

**Sector** Building

**Category** General

**Topic** Adoption of NCC 2022

**Document number** 14

**Version** 3.0

**Superseded**

- Version 2.0. published 12 September 2023
- Version 1, published 15 December 2022.

**Published** 1 November 2023

## Contact Us

If you have a technical enquiry, please email [technicalenquiry@vba.vic.gov.au](mailto:technicalenquiry@vba.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 815 127.

### Victorian Building Authority

Goods Shed North  
733 Bourke Street  
Docklands VIC 3008

[www.vba.vic.gov.au](http://www.vba.vic.gov.au)

## Copyright

### Copyright

© 2021 Victorian Building Authority (VBA). This publication must not be copied, reproduced, published, adapted, or communicated by any person without the VBA's prior written consent or as permitted by the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth)

### Disclaimer

The information set out in the VBA's resources is for general information purposes and guidance only. It is a reader's responsibility to obtain independent advice in respect of the application of legislation, a technical instruction or industry standard relevant to their circumstances. A person's use of the VBA's resources is not a substitute for obtaining independent advice.

While we have made every attempt to ensure our resources contain correct information at the date of publication, the VBA makes no warranty or representation that its resources are error free. To the extent permitted by applicable laws, the VBA, its employees, agents and consultants exclude any and all liability whatsoever for any direct, indirect, incidental, special or consequential loss or damage a person may suffer arising out of or in connection with the access and use of the VBA's resources '(including any third-party material included in these resources).'