

Backflow Prevention BP 02 | Toilet seat douches

Audience

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

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|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architects/ Designers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Owner Builders |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Builders | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plumbers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Surveyors/ Inspectors | <input 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 backflow requirements when installing toilet seat douches.

The content below provides guidance on:

- Douche seats certified to WMTS-051:2016
- Douche seats certified to WMTS-051:2021
- Determining backflow requirements.



For guidance on the plumbing regulatory framework, refer to Plumbing Practice Note RF-01 Regulatory framework

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 Plumbing Regulations 2018 or the National Construction Code.

- **AS** – Australian Standard
- **AS/NZS** – Australian/ New Zealand Standard
- **NCC** – National Construction Code 2022 – Volume Three
- **Regulations** – Plumbing Regulations 2018
- **WMTS** – WaterMark Technical Specification
- **ABCB** – Australian Building Codes Board



Previous installation requirements

The technical advice team have had many enquiries concerning the backflow requirements when installing a toilet seat douche and have provided the following advice in the past.

Clause 6 of the WaterMark Technical Specification (WMTS):051:2016 - Bidet douche seats, required the manufacturers to provide a label stating: "This douche seat is supplied with a backflow protection device complying with AS/NZS 3500.1. No further backflow prevention is required for connection to the water supply". Clause 8.3 of the WMTS 051: 2016, specifies the douche seat shall be supplied with a low hazard mechanical backflow prevention device complying with AS/NZS 3500.1.

The VBA have allowed toilet seat douches that are certified through WMTS:051:2016 to be installed under the above conditions without the need for additional backflow protection.

Current installation requirements

Changes to the WMTS-051 in 2021 have removed the above requirements and refer to the National Construction Code Volume Three (NCC), for installation requirements.

The NCC under specification 41, S41C paragraph 3 (f) cross connection hazards, considers toilet douche seats to be a high hazard where the outlet in all positions is less than 25mm above the pan.

Part B5, B5D2 (2)(b); refers to AS/NZS 3500.1 for the appropriate backflow device.

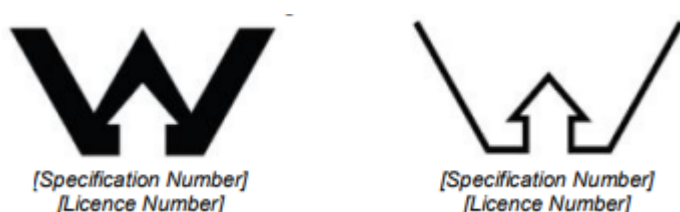
AS/NZS 3500.1:2021 table 4.4.1 lists the suitability of devices. Air gaps and atmospheric vacuum breakers have been elevated to a high hazard provision.

A douche seat that incorporates an integral air gap or atmospheric vacuum breaker does not require any further/additional backflow preventive measure.

Determining backflow requirements

All bidet douche seats must be watermark certified to WMTS-051-Toilet Douche Seats and listed on the watermark database.

Figure 1 example of watermark symbol.



Search the ABCB watermark database by either the specification number or licence number or specification.

Click on the link for access to the watermark database

[WM Product Search | WaterMark \(abcb.gov.au\)](#)



Figure 2 Watermark database

Scroll to find the make and model of the douche seat.

Click on the “view product detail”.

Figure 3

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Active Product

Authorised Product, Safe to install

Licence: XXXXXX EXP: 01/02/2026

Model ID:	XXXXXX
Model Name:	XXXXXX
Brand:	XXXXXX

[View product detail](#)

Figure 4

<p>Certificate XXXXXX</p> <p>Model ID XXXX-XX</p> <p>Model Name XXXX Toilet Seat</p> <p>Brand Name XXXXXX</p> <p>DtS Installation Yes</p> <p>Categories Bidet douche seats</p> <p>Description Electric Bidet Seat</p> <p>Scope of Use Bidet Douche Seat with Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker (AVB) high hazard backflow prevention device that complias with AS 2845.1:2022. Douche seats using water dispensed by a douche spray for the purpose of personal hygiene, specifically to douche seats that are self contained for installation on water closet (WC) pans (toilets) and direct connection to the water supply.</p>	<p>Certificate XXXXXX</p> <p>Model ID XX-XXXXX</p> <p>Model Name XXXXX- Toilet seat</p> <p>Brand Name XXXXX</p> <p>DtS Installation Unknown</p> <p>Categories Sanitary Fixtures</p> <p>Description Bidet Douche Toilet Seat Having an Intergral Break Tank With an Airgap Complying With AS2845.2</p> <p>Scope of Use G1/2" 750 kPa 35°C Solenoid Intergral Break Tank With an Airgap Complying With AS2845.2</p>
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Refer to the description and scope of use.

Douche seats that have either an integral air gap complying with AS 2845.2 or an atmospheric vacuum breaker (AVB) complying with AS/NZS 2845.1 do not require any further backflow measure for installation.

Douche seats that do not have integral backflow via an air gap or an atmospheric vacuum breaker will require additional high hazard backflow protection when connecting to the water supply.



The above relates to individual and zone protection within the property.

For containment requirements refer to the relevant Utility Network Operator for information on their requirements for the protection of their assets.

Related Documentation

- Plumbing Regulations 2018
- National Construction Code 2022 - Volume Three
- AS/NZS 3500.1:2021 – Plumbing and drainage – Part 1: Water services
- WMTS-051:2016 - Toilet douche seats
- WMTS-051:2021 - Toilet douche seats
- <https://watermark.abcb.gov.au/>

List of Amendments

- Amended to reflect current requirements
- Pathway for searching watermark database

Document history

Sector	Plumbing
Category	Backflow Prevention
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Superseded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Version 2.0, published 3 May 23• Version 1.0, published 11 August 22
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Contact Us

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