

Backflow Prevention BP 02 | Toilet seat douches

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plumbers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Surveyors/ Inspectors | <input type="checkbox"/> Real estate management agents |
| <input 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:

- Previous installation requirements
- Current installation 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 Building 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



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 refers to National Construction Code Volume Three (NCC), for installation requirements.

The NCC under cross-connection control considers toilet seat douches to be a high hazard to the potable/drinking water supply which means a high hazard backflow prevention device needs to be installed on toilet seat douches.

When installing a toilet seat douche the water supply must be protected using a high hazard backflow prevention device, or where multiple toilet seat douches are installed the water supply can be protected by a zone device with dedicated lines to all toilet seat douches on the property.



In some jurisdictions, regulations issued under water supply legislation, and/or rules set by a Network Utility Operator, may prescribe containment protection which differs from this Specification.

If this occurs, then those regulations and/or rules should be followed in place of this Specification. This Specification only applies for the purposes of compliance with Volume Three of the NCC. It is not intended to limit or extend the application of other regulations.

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 - Bidet douche seats
- WMTS-051:2021 - Bidet douche seats
- <https://watermark.abcb.gov.au/>

List of Amendments

- National Construction Code 2022 - Volume Three amendment
- Update format and content review



Document history

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Category	Backflow Prevention
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Contact Us

If you have a technical enquiry, please email: plumbingtechnicaladvice@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

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