

# Application for a plumbing modification

(Section 221ZZO, Building Act 1993)



This form must be used to apply for a modification of the plumbing regulations (the Plumbing Regulations 2018, the Plumbing Code of Australia and referenced plumbing standards) as they apply to specific plumbing work.

## Plumbing modification application checklist

Please check that you have attached copies of all supporting documentation, including all relevant design plans and calculations.

	Tick
1. Completed application form	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Completed payment authorisation form	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Building owner agrees to the modification	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. All relevant documentation, designs and plans	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. For building over property service drains only:	
a) Site plan showing the proposed new drains, existing building and any new buildings/extensions.	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Copy of existing property sewerage plan.	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Copy of the relevant water authority's Conditions of Connection.	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Details of proposal for the existing drain to remain or be re-laid, including details of the approved material to be used and any inspection shafts to be installed.	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Note: If your application relates to a below ground sanitary drain, you may not require a plumbing modification – see "Is a plumbing modification required?" on page 6.**

## Submitting your application

Completed plumbing modification applications can be submitted to:

By email:  
[modifications@vba.vic.gov.au](mailto:modifications@vba.vic.gov.au)

or  
**By post:**  
Technical and Regulation Plumbing,  
Victorian Building Authority,  
GPO Box 536,  
Melbourne VIC 3001.

## More information

If you have any queries: 1300 815 127 or [modifications@vba.vic.gov.au](mailto:modifications@vba.vic.gov.au).

## 1. Site Details

The location that is subject to the plumbing modification application

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Applicant Details

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation/company (if relevant): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which of the following describes who you are:

**Note: Applications are restricted to those listed below.**

Owner / occupier of the building or land

Representative of public authority

Licensed or registered plumbing practitioner

Secretary of government department

Plumbing inspector or compliance auditor

If you are not the owner of the land on which the proposed plumbing work will be carried out, the owner must authorise you to apply for a modification to carry out plumbing work on their property. See Section 3 (below) for further details on providing this authority.

## 3. Owner Details

If the owner is the applicant, check this box and go to question 4.

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

As the owner/s of the property specified in the Site Details above, I/we authorise the Applicant to apply for this modification on our behalf:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (owner 1)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (owner 2)

#### 4. Plumbing Practitioner Details

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Licence/Registration No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 5. Details of the plumbing modification

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a) Please specify the clauses of the regulations you seek to modify (tick all that applies):

- Plumbing Regulations 2018 \_\_\_\_\_
- Plumbing Code of Australia 2019 \_\_\_\_\_
- AS/NZS 3500.1 \_\_\_\_\_
- AS/NZS 3500.2 \_\_\_\_\_
- AS/NZS 3500.3 \_\_\_\_\_
- AS/NZS 3500.4 \_\_\_\_\_
- Other referenced plumbing technical standard/s \_\_\_\_\_

b) Please provide a brief overview of the site/address where the plumbing work is being carried out

c) Please explain why the plumbing work cannot comply with current regulations / codes / standards:

d) Can the work be completed using the performance solution method of compliance? Please provide an explanation of why the work can or can't be carried out under a performance solution.

**Note: Plumbing modifications should not be used where a performance solution can be carried out.**

d) Please provide details of proposed plumbing work, including any relevant drawings, maps, calculations, materials to be used, etc.

e) Please provide details of any relevant authority plans e.g. sewage plans.

f) Please provide details of parties/ stakeholders consulted in the development of the proposed modification.

Stakeholders	Consulted?	
	Yes	No
a) Relevant council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Relevant building surveyor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Builder / developer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Relevant water authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Other authorities. E.g. Energy Safe Victoria, Environment Protection Authority, Fire Rescue Victoria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

g) Where relevant, please provide details of the name, qualifications and experience of any parties who helped design the proposed modification.

h) What evidence do you have to demonstrate that the proposed plumbing modification will perform, that it is safe and will not cause any damage to property or excessive costs to the owner? Please supply all evidence to support your application.

## 7. Signature of applicant

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

## Is a plumbing modification required?

### 1. Clause 3.2 of AS/NZS 3500.2 - laying of below ground sanitary drains

Changes made to the *Plumbing Regulations 2018* mean you may not need to apply for a plumbing modification application for this work if your installation can meet the prescribed requirements of the Regulations as follows:

#### **Schedule 2 Part 1 Division (1 Standards for the laying of below-ground sanitary drains)**

(1) For the purposes of regulation 16, work in relation to a below-ground sanitary drain must comply with Clause 3.2 of AS/NZS 3500.2, wherever practicable.

(2) Where a below-ground sanitary drain is unable to comply with subclause (1), the below-ground sanitary drain must—

- a) be laid as a straight line of drain with no branches or changes in direction; and
- b) be constructed of a material that complies with the requirements in Section 2 of AS/NZS 3500.2; and
- c) have inspection openings with shafts terminating at the finished surface level, installed in permanently accessible positions in the open air at the upstream entry and downstream exit points.

### 2. Charged stormwater system

Where a charged stormwater system is proposed to be installed (because it can't meet the deemed to satisfy requirements), it will need to be developed as a plumbing performance solution. A plumbing modification application for these installations will no longer be accepted as it can be done via a performance solution.

***Note: A plumbing modification should only be used when you can't comply with the plumbing requirements using the deemed to satisfy or performance solution compliance options.***

**APPLICATION FOR PLUMBING MODIFICATION  
PAYMENT AUTHORISATION FORM  
(Section 221ZZO, Building Act 1993)**

**The fee payable for an application for a plumbing modification is: \$122.80\*  
The fee must be paid at the time that the application is lodged and is not  
refundable.**

**1. Payee's details:**

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of plumbing work: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Payment by Credit Card:**

Credit Card Number:     -     -     -

Cardholder's Name (as it appears on card): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Card:  Visa       MasterCard      Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

\* The application fee increases by a small amount on 1 July each year (in line with Victorian government fees - *Monetary Units Act 2004*).