

**BUILDING  
PERFORMANCE**

**H1**



# H1 Energy Efficiency Verification Method H1/VM1

Energy efficiency for all housing,  
and buildings up to 300 m<sup>2</sup>

**FIFTH EDITION AMENDMENT 1 | EFFECTIVE 4 AUGUST 2022**



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,  
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**  
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government

# Preface

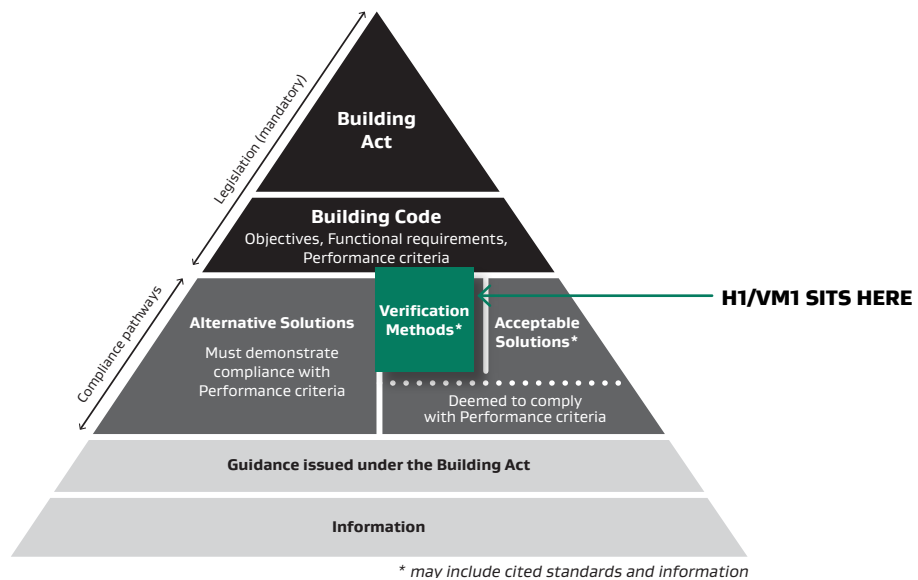
## Document status

This document (H1/VM1 Fifth Edition Amendment 1) is a verification method issued under section 22 (1) of the Building Act 2004 and is effective on 4 August 2022. It does not apply to building consent applications submitted before 4 August 2022. The previous Verification Method H1/VM1 Fifth Edition (unamended) can be used to show compliance until 4 August 2022. The previous Verification Method H1/VM1 Fourth Edition Amendment 4, can be used to show compliance until 2 November 2022 and can be used for building consent applications submitted before 3 November 2022.

## Building Code regulatory system

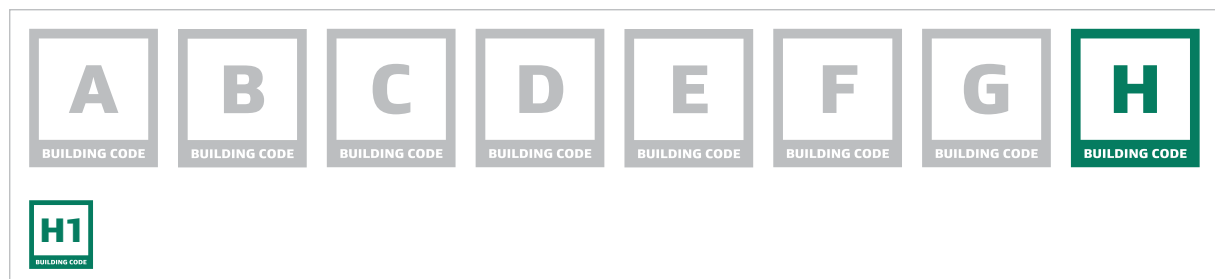
Each verification method outlines the provisions of the Building Code that it relates to. Complying with an acceptable solution or verification method is a way of complying with that part of the Building Code. Other options for establishing compliance are listed in [section 19 of the Building Act](#).

## Schematic of the Building Code System



A building design must take into account all parts of the Building Code. The Building Code is located in Schedule 1 of the Building Regulations 1992 and available online at [www.legislation.govt.nz](http://www.legislation.govt.nz)

The part of the Building Code that this verification method relates to is clause H1 Energy Efficiency. Further information on the scope of this document is provided in [Part 1. General](#).



Further information about the Building Code, the objectives, functional requirements and performance criteria provisions that it contains, and other acceptable solutions and verification methods are available at [www.building.govt.nz](http://www.building.govt.nz).

## Main changes in this version and features of this document

### Main changes in this version

This verification method is amendment 1 of the fifth edition of H1/VM1. The main changes from the previous fourth edition are:

- › The scope of H1/VM1 has been reduced to cover only housing and buildings less than 300 m<sup>2</sup>. Requirements applicable for large buildings have been combined into the new Verification Method H1/VM2. To reflect the new scope of the documents and the new document layout, a new introduction and scope has been provided in [Part 1. General](#).
- › Citation of NZS 4218: 2009 “Thermal insulation – Housing and small buildings” has been removed from the document. The relevant content from this standard has been adopted into H1/VM1 with permission from Standards New Zealand.
- › The minimum R-values previously found in NZS 4218 are replaced with new values and new text in [Part 2. Building thermal envelope](#).
- › The requirements for determining the thermal resistance and construction R-value of building elements have been revised to better reflect the thermal performance of windows, doors, skylights, and slab-on-ground floors.
- › Portions of text have been re-written to enhance clarity in the document and provide consistent language with other acceptable solutions and verification methods.
- › References have been revised to include only documents within the scope of H1/VM1 and have been amended to include the most recent versions of AS/NZS 4859.1, NZS 4246, and ALF in [Appendix A](#).
- › Additional references have been added to include BS EN 673, ISO 10077-1 and -2, ISO 10211, ISO 10456, ISO 12631, ISO 13370, and ISO 13789 in [Appendix A](#).
- › The definitions page has been revised to include all defined terms used in this document in [Appendix B](#).
- › The three-zone climate zone map previously found in NZS 4218 has been updated with a six-zone climate zone map in [Appendix C](#).
- › The computer modelling method for determining the building energy use has been provided in [Appendix D](#).
- › A new procedure for calculating the construction R-value of windows, doors, skylights, and curtain walling has been added in [Appendix E](#).
- › A new procedure for calculating the construction R-value of slab-on-ground floors has been added in [Appendix F](#).

The main changes from the unamended version of the fifth edition of H1/VM1 are:

- › Alternate thermal resistance requirements have been added for housing where building consent applications are submitted before 1 May 2023.
- › An additional option for determining the construction R-value of concrete slab-on-ground floors has been added to [Appendix F](#), which is only permitted to be used for housing, where building consent applications are submitted before 1 May 2023. This additional option is consistent with the fourth edition of H1/AS1.
- › Throughout the document some obvious errors in the text, formatting and cross-references have been corrected, and minor text clarifications with minor to no impact have been made.

People using this document should check for amendments on a regular basis. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment may amend any part of any acceptable solution or verification method at any time. Up-to-date versions of acceptable solutions and verification methods are available from [www.building.govt.nz](http://www.building.govt.nz).

## Features of this document

- › For the purposes of Building Code compliance, the standards and documents referenced in this verification method must be the editions, along with their specific amendments listed in [Appendix A](#).
- › Words in *italic* are defined at the end of this document in [Appendix B](#).
- › Hyperlinks are provided to cross-references within this document and to external websites and appear with a [blue underline](#).
- › Classified uses for *buildings*, as described in clause A1 of the Building Code, are printed in **bold** in this document. These are denoted with classified use icons for:

 <b>Housing</b>	 <b>Commercial</b>	 <b>Outbuildings</b>
 <b>Communal residential</b>	 <b>Industry</b>	 <b>Ancillary</b>
 <b>Communal non-residential</b>		

- › Appendices to this verification method are part of, and have equal status to, the verification method. Figures are informative only and the wording of the paragraphs takes precedence. Text boxes headed 'COMMENT' occur throughout this document and are for guidance purposes only.

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# Part 1. General

## 1.1 Introduction

### 1.1.1 Scope of this document

1.1.1.1 This document applies to:

- a) **Housing**; and
- b) Other *buildings* with an area of *occupied space* no greater than 300 m<sup>2</sup>, that are **communal residential**, **communal non-residential** (assembly care only), and **commercial buildings**.



COMMENT: **Housing** includes *detached dwellings*, *multi-unit dwellings* such as *buildings* which contain more than one separate household or family, e.g. an apartment *building*, and also group dwellings, e.g. a *wharenui*.

1.1.1.2 For *buildings* that do not meet these characteristics, refer to the Acceptable Solution H1/AS2 or Verification Method H1/VM2 as a means to demonstrate compliance or use an alternative means to demonstrate compliance.

### 1.1.2 Items outside the scope of this document

1.1.2.1 This verification method does not include the use of foil insulation.

1.1.2.2 This verification method does not include requirements to comply with Building Code clauses H.1.3.1(b), H.1.3.4, H.1.3.5, or H.1.3.6. For these clauses, use an alternative means to demonstrate compliance.

### 1.1.3 Compliance pathway

1.1.3.1 This verification method is one option that provides a means of establishing compliance with the performance criteria in Building Code clauses H.1.3.1(a), H.1.3.2E, and H.1.3.3.

1.1.3.2 Options for demonstrating compliance with H1 Energy Efficiency through the use of acceptable solutions and verification methods are summarised in [Table 1.1.3.2](#). Compliance may also be demonstrated using an alternative solution.

1.1.3.3 Compliance with Building Code clause H.1.3.1(a) (*adequate thermal resistance*) satisfies clause H.1.3.2E (*Building Performance Index or BPI*).



COMMENT:

1. The modelling method described in [Part 2](#) is a verification method for Building Code clause H.1.3.1(a) (*adequate thermal resistance*). However, compliance with clause H.1.3.2E (*Building Performance Index or BPI*) is not sufficient for demonstrating compliance with clause H.1.3.1(a) (*adequate thermal resistance*).
2. ALF 4.0, published by BRANZ, calculates the *BPI*. Note that the ALF procedures are intended for detached dwellings and are not suitable for multi-unit dwellings.
3. The 20°C stated in the definition of *heating energy* is for calculation purposes only.

## General

**TABLE 1.1.3.2: Demonstrating compliance with H1 Energy Efficiency through acceptable solutions and verification methods**

Paragraph 1.1.3.2

Performance clause	Applies to	Relevant acceptable solutions and verification methods
H1.3.1 (a) and (b) <i>Thermal Envelope</i>	<p><b>H</b> <b>Housing</b></p> <p><b>CR</b> <b>Communal residential</b></p> <p><b>CN</b> <b>Communal non-residential</b> (assembly care only)</p> <p><b>Com</b> <b>Commercial</b></p>	<p>For <b>housing</b>, and <i>buildings</i> no greater than 300 m<sup>2</sup>: H1/AS1 or H1/VM1</p> <p>For large <i>buildings</i>: H1/AS2 or H1/VM2</p>
H1.3.2E <i>Building performance index</i>	<b>H</b> <b>Housing</b>	H1/AS1 or H1/VM1
H1.3.3 (a) to (f) <i>Physical conditions</i>	All <i>buildings</i>	<p>For <b>housing</b>, and <i>buildings</i> no greater than 300 m<sup>2</sup>: H1/AS1 or H1/VM1</p> <p>For large <i>buildings</i>: H1/AS2 or H1/VM2</p>
H1.3.4 (a) <i>Heating of hot water</i>	All <i>buildings</i>	<p>For <b>housing</b>, and <i>buildings</i> no greater than 300 m<sup>2</sup>: H1/AS1</p> <p>For large <i>buildings</i>: H1/AS2</p>
H1.3.4 (b) <i>Storage vessels and distribution systems</i>	Individual storage vessels ≤ 700 L in capacity and distribution systems	<p>For <b>housing</b>, and <i>buildings</i> no greater than 300 m<sup>2</sup>: H1/AS1</p> <p>For large <i>buildings</i>: H1/AS2</p>
H1.3.4 (c) <i>Efficient use of hot water</i>	<b>H</b> <b>Housing</b>	H1/AS1
H1.3.5 <i>Artificial lighting</i>	<p>Lighting not provided solely to meet the requirements of Building Code clause F6 in:</p> <p><b>Com</b> <b>CN</b> <b>Commercial and Communal non-residential</b> having <i>occupied space</i> greater than 300 m<sup>2</sup></p>	H1/AS2
H1.3.6 <i>HVAC systems</i>	<b>Com</b> <b>Commercial</b>	H1/VM3

## 1.2 Using this verification method

### 1.2.1 Determining the classified use

1.2.1.1 Classified uses for *buildings* are described in clause A1 of the Building Code. Where a specific classified use is mentioned within a subheading and/or within the text of a paragraph, this requirement applies only to the specified classified use(s), and does not apply to other classified uses.

**Ind** 1.2.1.2 In *buildings* containing both **industrial** and other classified uses, the non-industrial portion shall be treated separately according to its classified use. For example, in a *building* containing both **industrial** and **commercial** classified uses, the **commercial** area shall meet the relevant NZBC energy efficiency requirements.

### 1.2.2 Determining the area of the building

**H** 1.2.2.1 For **housing**, use the *floor area* of the *building*.

1.2.2.2 For *buildings* other than **housing**, calculate the area based on the *occupied space* of the *building*.

## Part 2. Building thermal envelope

### 2.1 Thermal resistance

#### 2.1.1 Demonstrating compliance

2.1.1.1 The *building* envelope shall be *constructed* to provide *adequate thermal resistance*. This is demonstrated through the use of the *building* energy use modelling method described in Subsection 2.1.2.



##### COMMENT:

1) To satisfy the Building Code performance requirement E3.3.1 for internal moisture, it may be necessary, depending on the method adopted, to provide more insulation (*greater R-value*) than that required to satisfy energy efficiency provisions alone.

2) Passive measures to prevent overheating from excessive solar heat gains through the *building envelope* should be taken to reduce dependence on active cooling systems. Such measures should include a combination of:

- › Providing *adequate thermal resistance* to the *thermal envelope* of the *building*; and
- › Avoiding excessive *window* areas (particularly on the east, north, and west facing facades); and
- › Avoiding excessive *skylight* areas; and
- › Selecting glass types with appropriate *solar heat gain coefficients (SHGC)*; and
- › Providing external shading for windows and *skylights*; and
- › Providing the ability to ventilate the *building* at a sufficient rate to maintain comfortable indoor temperatures in summer.

#### 2.1.2 Modelling method for verification of the design

2.1.2.1 Verification of the design is achieved by demonstrating that the energy use of the proposed *building* design does not exceed the energy use of the reference *building* using computer modelling described in [Appendix D](#).

2.1.2.2 The sum of the calculated annual *heating load* and annual *cooling load* of the proposed *building* shall not exceed that of the reference *building*. The reference *building* shall have *construction R-values* from:

- a) For *building elements* that contain embedded heating systems, [Table 2.1.2.2A](#); or
- b) For *building elements* that do not contain embedded heating systems,
  - i) [Table 2.1.2.2B](#) or
  - ii) alternatively, for **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, those in [Table 2.1.2.2C](#).



2.1.2.3 The requirements for the reference *building* are separated based on the relevant climate zone for the *building*. A list of the New Zealand climate zones is provided in [Appendix C](#).

2.1.2.4 For *building elements* that contain embedded heating systems, the proposed *building* must, as a minimum, meet the *construction R-values* of [Table 2.1.2.2A](#).



## Building thermal envelope

**TABLE 2.1.2.2A: Minimum construction R-values for heated ceilings, walls, or floors**

Paragraphs 2.1.2.2 a), 2.1.2.4

Building element	Construction R-values (m <sup>2</sup> ·K/W) <sup>(1), (2), (3)</sup>					
	Climate zone 1	Climate zone 2	Climate zone 3	Climate zone 4	Climate zone 5	Climate zone 6
Heated ceiling <sup>(4), (5)</sup>	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6
Heated wall <sup>(6)</sup>	R2.9	R2.9	R2.9	R2.9	R2.9	R2.9
Heated floor <sup>(7)</sup>	R2.5	R2.5	R2.5	R2.8	R3.0	R3.0

**Notes:**

- (1)  $R_{IN}/R\text{-value} < 0.1$  and  $R_{IN}$  is the *thermal resistance* between the heated plane and the inside air.
- (2) Floor coverings, for example carpet or cork, will reduce the efficiency of the *heated floor*.
- (3) Climate zone boundaries are shown in [Appendix C](#).
- (4) In *roofs* with a *roof space*, where the insulation is installed over a horizontal ceiling, the *roof R-value* may be reduced to R3.3 for a distance of up to 500 mm from the outer edge of the ceiling perimeter where space restrictions do not allow full-thickness insulation to be installed.
- (5) For **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, the minimum *construction R-value* for *heated ceilings* in all climate zones is permitted to be reduced to R3.5.
- (6) For **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, the minimum *construction R-value* for *heated walls* in all climate zones is permitted to be reduced to R2.6.
- (7) For **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, the minimum *construction R-value* for *heated floors* in all climate zones is permitted to be reduced to R1.9.

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**TABLE 2.1.2.2B: Reference building construction R-values for building elements not containing embedded heating systems**

Paragraph 2.1.2.2 b)

Building element	Construction R-values (m <sup>2</sup> ·K/W) <sup>(1)</sup>					
	Climate zone 1	Climate zone 2	Climate zone 3	Climate zone 4	Climate zone 5	Climate zone 6
Roof <sup>(2)</sup>	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6
Wall	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0
Floor						
Slab-on-ground floors	R1.5	R1.5	R1.5	R1.5	R1.6	R1.7
Floors other than slab-on-ground	R2.5	R2.5	R2.5	R2.8	R3.0	R3.0
Windows and doors <sup>(3)</sup>	R0.46 <sup>(3)</sup>	R0.46 <sup>(3)</sup>	R0.46	R0.46	R0.50	R0.50
Skylights	R0.46	R0.46	R0.54	R0.54	R0.62	R0.62

**Note:**

- (1) Climate zone boundaries are shown in [Appendix C](#).
- (2) In *roofs* with a *roof space*, where the insulation is installed over a horizontal ceiling, the *roof R-value* may be reduced to R3.3 for a distance of up to 500 mm from the outer edge of the ceiling perimeter where space restrictions do not allow full-thickness insulation to be installed.
- (3) For *building consent* applications submitted before 2 November 2023, the minimum *construction R-values* for windows and doors in climate zones 1 and 2 for the reference *building* are permitted to be reduced to R0.37 m<sup>2</sup>·K/W.

## Building thermal envelope

**H TABLE 2.1.2.2C: Alternative minimum construction R-values for building elements that do not contain embedded heating systems - for housing only where building consent applications are submitted before 1 May 2023**

Paragraphs 2.1.2.2 b), 2.1.3.1

Building element	Construction R-values (m <sup>2</sup> ·K/W)	
	Region A <sup>(1)</sup>	Region B <sup>(2)</sup>
Roof	R2.9	R3.3
Wall	R1.9	R2.0
Floor	R1.3	R1.3
Windows and doors	R0.37	R0.37
Skylights	R0.37	R0.37

**Notes:**

- (1) Region A comprises all of the North Island/Te Ika-a-Māui excluding the Taupo District, the Ruapehu District and the part of the Rangitikei District north of 39°50'S (-39.83), and all offshore islands north of 37°15'S (-37.25).
- (2) Region B comprises the Taupo District, the Ruapehu District, the part of the Rangitikei District north of 39°50'S (-39.83), the South Island/Te Waipounamu, Stewart Island/Rakiura, the Chatham Islands, and all offshore islands south of 37°15'S (-37.25).



COMMENT: Region A in [Table 2.1.2.2C](#) is consistent with the previous climate zones 1 and 2 defined in NZS 4218: 2009. Region B is consistent with the previous climate zone 3 defined in NZS 4218: 2009. The NZS 4218 climate zones are different to the current six climate zones defined in [Appendix C](#).

### 2.1.3 Determining the thermal resistance

2.1.3.1 The *thermal resistance (R-values)* of building elements may be verified:

- For walls, *roofs* and floors other than *slab-on-ground floors*, by using NZS 4214; and
- For windows, doors, *skylights* and *curtain walling*, as specified in [Appendix E](#); and
- For *slab-on-ground floors*, as specified in [Appendix F](#).



COMMENT: The BRANZ 'House Insulation Guide' provides *thermal resistances* of common *building* components and is based on calculations from NZS 4214. However, the BRANZ House Insulation Guide, 5th edition or earlier, should not be used for determining the *thermal resistances* of *slab-on-ground floors*, windows, and doors due to differences in calculation methods and assumptions compared to [Appendix E](#) and [Appendix F](#).

2.1.3.2 The *thermal resistance (R-values)* of insulation materials may be verified by using AS/NZS 4859.1.

2.1.3.3 The *construction R-values* of building elements shall be calculated as follows:

- For walls and *roofs*, the *R-value* is of a typical area of the *building element*; and
- For framed walls, the *R-value* shall include the effects of studs, dwangs, top plates and bottom plates, but may exclude the effects of lintels, sills, additional studs that support lintels and sills, and additional studs at corners and junctions; and
- For walls without frames, the *R-value* excludes any attachment requirements for windows and doors; and
- For windows, doors and *skylights*, as specified in [Appendix E](#); and
- For *slab-on-ground floors*, the *R-value* is as specified in [Appendix F](#); and
- For floors other than *slab-on-ground floors*, the *R-value* is of a typical area of the floor ignoring the effect of floor coverings (including carpets).

## References

### Appendix A. References

For the purposes of Building Code compliance, the Standards and documents referenced in this Verification Method must be the editions, along with their specific amendments, listed below.

#### Standards New Zealand

		Where quoted
NZS 4214: 2006	Methods of determining the total thermal resistance of parts of buildings	<a href="#">2.1.3.1 a)</a> , <a href="#">Definitions</a>
NZS 4303: 1990	Ventilation for acceptable indoor air quality	<a href="#">D.3.2.1.b)</a>
AS/NZS 4859:-	Thermal insulation materials for buildings	
Part 1: 2018	General criteria and technical provisions	<a href="#">2.1.3.2</a>

#### British Standards Institute

BS EN 673: 2011	Glass in building – Determination of thermal transmittance (U value) – Calculation method	<a href="#">E.1.2.2 a)</a> , <a href="#">E.1.2.4 a)</a> , <a href="#">E.2.1.2 a)</a> , <a href="#">Equation E.5</a>
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#### International Organization for Standardization

ISO 10077:-	Thermal performance of windows, doors and shutters - Calculation of thermal transmittance	<a href="#">D.3.2.1.b)</a>
Part 1: 2017	General	<a href="#">E.1.2.2 a)</a> , <a href="#">E.1.2.4 a)</a> , <a href="#">E.1.3.1</a> , <a href="#">E.2.1.2</a>
Part 2: 2017	Numerical method for frames	<a href="#">E.1.2.2 b)</a> , <a href="#">E.1.2.4 b)</a> , <a href="#">E.2.1.2 b)</a>
ISO 10211: 2017	Thermal bridges in building construction – Heat flows and surface temperatures – Detailed calculations	<a href="#">F.1.2.3</a>
ISO 10456: 2007	Building materials and products – Hygrothermal properties – Tabulated design values and procedures for determining declared and design thermal values	<a href="#">F.1.2.6</a>
ISO 12631: 2017	Thermal performance of curtain walling – Calculation of thermal transmittance	<a href="#">Equation E.5</a>
ISO 13370: 2017	Thermal performance of buildings – Heat transfer via the ground – Calculation methods	<a href="#">F.1.2.2</a> , <a href="#">F.1.2.3</a> , <a href="#">F.1.2.4</a> , <a href="#">F.1.2.6</a>
ISO 13789: 2017	Thermal performance of buildings – Transmission and ventilation heat transfer coefficients – Calculation method	<a href="#">F.1.2.3</a>

This standard can be accessed from [www.standards.govt.nz](http://www.standards.govt.nz)

#### American National Standards Institute

ANSI/ASHRAE 140: 2017	Standard method of test for the evaluation of building energy analysis computer programs	<a href="#">D.1.3.1</a>
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This standard can be accessed from [webstore.ansi.org/](http://webstore.ansi.org/)

## References

### International Energy Agency

Building Energy Simulation Test (BESTEST) and Diagnostic Method (1995)

[D.1.3.1](#)

This document can be accessed from [www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)

### BRANZ Ltd

ALF 4.0 Annual Loss Factor version 4.0, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (2018)

[Definitions](#)

BRANZ House Insulation Guide (5th Edition), 1 July 2014

[2.1.3.1 Comment](#),  
[F.1.1.1 Comment](#)

These documents can be accessed from [www.branz.co.nz](http://www.branz.co.nz)

### National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd (NIWA)

Temperature Normals for New Zealand 1961-1990 by A I Tomlinson and J Sansom (ISBN 0478083343)

[Definitions](#)

This document can be accessed from [www.niwa.co.nz](http://www.niwa.co.nz)



*Portions of this document have used text and figures from NZS 4218: 2009 and NZS 4243.1: 2007. Copyright of NZS 4218: 2009 Thermal Insulation – Housing and Small Buildings; and NZS 4243.1: 2007 Energy Efficiency – Large Buildings Part 1: Building Thermal Envelope is Crown copyright, administered by the New Zealand Standards Executive. Reproduced with permission from Standards New Zealand, on behalf of New Zealand Standards Executive, under copyright licence LN001384.*

## Appendix B. Definitions

These definitions are specific to this verification method. Other defined terms found in italics within the definitions are provided in clause A2 of the Building Code.

<b>Adequate</b>	Means adequate to achieve the objectives of the Building Code.
<b>Approved temperature data</b>	Means the temperature data contained in A I Tomlinson and J Sansom, <i>Temperature Normals for New Zealand for period 1961 to 1990</i> (NIWA, ISBN 0478083343).
<b>Building</b>	Has the meaning given to it by sections 8 and 9 of the Building Act 2004.
<b>Building element</b>	Any structural or non-structural component or assembly incorporated into or associated with a <i>building</i> . Included are <i>fixtures</i> , <i>services</i> , <i>drains</i> , permanent mechanical installations for access, glazing, partitions, ceilings and temporary supports.
<b>Building envelope</b>	The <i>building thermal envelope</i> plus the exterior surface of any spaces not requiring conditioning, e.g. garage, floor space (below insulating layer), <i>roof</i> space (above any outer surface defining an attic or when there is no attic above the insulating layer).
<b>Building performance index (BPI)</b>	In relation to a <i>building</i> , means the <i>heating energy</i> of the <i>building</i> divided by the product of the <i>heating degrees total</i> and the sum of the <i>floor area</i> and the <i>total wall area</i> , and so is calculated in accordance with the following formula:  $\text{BPI} = \frac{\text{Heating energy}}{\text{Heating degrees total} \times (\text{floor area} + \text{total wall area})}$
<b>Conditioned space</b>	That part of a <i>building</i> within the <i>building thermal envelope</i> that may be directly or indirectly heated or cooled for occupant comfort. It is separated from <i>unconditioned space</i> by <i>building elements</i> (walls, windows, <i>skylights</i> , doors, <i>roof</i> , and floor) to limit uncontrolled airflow and heat loss.
<b>Construct</b>	In relation to a <i>building</i> , includes to design, build, erect, prefabricate, and relocate the <i>building</i> .
<b>Construction R-value</b>	The <i>total thermal resistance (R-value)</i> of a typical area of a <i>building element</i> .
<b>Cooling load</b>	The amount of heat energy removed from the <i>building</i> to maintain it below the required maximum temperature (the amount of heat removed by the chosen appliances, not the amount of fuel required to run them).
<b>Curtain walling</b>	Part of the <i>building envelope</i> made of a framework usually consisting of horizontal and vertical profiles, connected together and anchored to the supporting structure of the <i>building</i> , and containing fixed and/or openable infills, which provides all the required functions of an internal or <i>external wall</i> or part thereof, but does not contribute to the load bearing or the stability of the structure of the <i>building</i> .
<b>Default value</b>	Value(s) to be used for modelling purposes, unless the designer can demonstrate that a different assumption better characterises the <i>building's</i> use over its expected life.
<b>External wall</b>	Any vertical exterior face of a <i>building</i> consisting of primary and/or secondary elements intended to provide protection against the outdoor environment.
<b>Floor area</b>	In relation to a <i>building</i> , means the <i>floor area</i> (expressed in square metres) of all interior spaces used for activities normally associated with domestic living.

## Definitions

<b>Glazing Area (<math>A_{\text{glazing}}</math>)</b>	The total area of vertical windows and doors that include glazing in the <i>thermal envelope</i> including transparent or translucent glazing, frames and opening tolerances, decorative glazing, and louvres. This excludes opaque panels, opaque doors, and <i>skylights</i> .
<b>Heated ceilings, walls, or floors</b>	Any ceiling, wall, or floor incorporating embedded pipes, electrical cables, or similar means of raising the temperature of the ceiling, wall, or floor for room heating.
<b>Heating degrees</b>	In relation to a location and a <i>heating month</i> , means the degrees obtained by subtracting from a base temperature of 14°C the mean (calculated using the <i>approved temperature data</i> ) of the outdoor temperatures at that location during that month.
<b>Heating degrees total</b>	In relation to a location and year, means whichever is the greater of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the value of 12 and</li> <li>b) the sum of all the <i>heating degrees</i> (calculated using the <i>approved temperature data</i>) for all of the <i>heating months</i> of the year.</li> </ul>
<b>Heating energy</b>	In relation to a <i>building</i> , means the energy from a <i>network utility operator</i> or a depletable resource (expressed in kilowatt-hours, and calculated using ALF 4.0, A tool for determining the <i>Building performance index</i> (BPI) of a house design (2018, BRANZ, Ltd) or some other method that can be correlated with that manual) needed to maintain the <i>building</i> at all times within a year at a constant internal temperature under the following standard conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a continuous temperature of 20°C throughout the <i>building</i>;</li> <li>b) an air change rate of 1 change per hour or the actual air leakage rate, whichever is the greater;</li> <li>c) a heat emission contribution arising from internal heat sources for any period in the year of 1000 kilowatt-hours for the first 50 m<sup>2</sup> of <i>floor area</i>, and 10 kilowatt-hours for every additional square metre of <i>floor area</i>;</li> <li>d) no allowance for— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) carpets; or</li> <li>ii) blinds, curtains, or drapes, on windows;</li> </ul> </li> <li>e) windows to have a <i>shading coefficient</i> of 0.6 (made up of 0.8 for windows and recesses and 0.75 for site shading).</li> </ul>
<b>Heating load</b>	The amount of heat energy supplied to the <i>building</i> to maintain it at the required temperature (the amount of heat delivered by the chosen appliances, not the amount of fuel required to run them).
<b>Heating month</b>	In relation to a location, means a month in which a base temperature of 14°C is greater than the mean (calculated using the <i>approved temperature data</i> ) of the outdoor temperatures at that location during that month.
<b>HVAC system</b>	For the purposes of performance H1.3.6 and in relation to a <i>building</i> , means a mechanical, electrical, or other system for modifying air temperature, modifying air humidity, providing ventilation, or doing all or any of those things, in a space within the <i>building</i> .

## Definitions

<b>Intended use</b>	In relation to a <i>building</i> , — <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) includes any or all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) any reasonably foreseeable occasional use that is not incompatible with the <i>intended use</i>;</li> <li>ii) normal maintenance;</li> <li>iii) activities undertaken in response to <i>fire</i> or any other reasonably foreseeable emergency; but</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) does not include any other maintenance and repairs or rebuilding.</li> </ul>
<b>Network utility operator</b>	Means a <i>person</i> who— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) undertakes or proposes to undertake the distribution or transmission by pipeline of natural or manufactured gas, petroleum, biofuel, or geothermal energy; or</li> <li>b) operates or proposes to operate a network for the purposes of— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) telecommunications as defined in section 5 of the Telecommunications Act 2001; or</li> <li>ii) radiocommunications as defined in section 2(1) of the Radiocommunications Act 1989; or</li> </ul> </li> <li>c) is an electricity operator or electricity distributor as defined in section 2 of the Electricity Act 1992 for the purpose of line function services as defined in that section; or</li> <li>d) undertakes or proposes to undertake the distribution of water for supply (including irrigation); or</li> <li>e) undertakes or proposes to undertake a drainage or sewerage system.</li> </ul>
<b>Occupied space</b>	Any space within a <i>building</i> in which a person will be present from time to time during the <i>intended use</i> of the <i>building</i> .
<b>Opaque door area (<math>A_{\text{door,opaque}}</math>)</b>	The total area of opaque doors and opaque panels of doors in the <i>thermal envelope</i> , including frames and opening tolerances.
<b>Persons</b>	Includes— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the Crown; and</li> <li>b) a corporation sole; and</li> <li>c) a body of <i>persons</i> (whether corporate or unincorporated).</li> </ul>
<b>Plug load</b>	The electrical load drawn by electrical appliances connected to the <i>building</i> electrical reticulation system by way of general purpose socket outlets.
<b>R-value</b>	The common abbreviation for describing the values of both <i>thermal resistance</i> and <i>total thermal resistance</i> .
<b>Roof</b>	Any <i>roof/ceiling</i> combination where the exterior surface of the <i>building</i> is at an angle of 60° or less to the horizontal and has its upper surface exposed to the outside.
<b>Roof area (<math>A_{\text{roof}}</math>)</b>	The area of the <i>roof</i> that is part of the <i>thermal envelope</i> , excluding the <i>skylight area</i> .
<b>Shading coefficient</b>	The ratio of the total <i>solar heat gain coefficient</i> (SHGC) through a particular glass compared to the total <i>solar heat gain coefficient</i> through 3 mm clear float glass.
<b>Skylight</b>	Translucent or transparent parts of the <i>roof</i> , including frames and glazing.

## Definitions

<b>Skylight area (<math>A_{\text{skylight}}</math>)</b>	The area of <i>skylights</i> that are part of the <i>roof thermal envelope</i> , including frames and opening tolerances.
<b>Slab-on-ground floor</b>	Floor <i>construction</i> consisting of a concrete slab or concrete raft foundation in contact with the ground over its whole area.
<b>Solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC)</b>	The total solar energy entering a <i>building</i> through the glazing, that is, the direct transmission of energy from the sun plus the inwards re-radiation of heat from solar radiation that is absorbed in the glass. The SHGC is also known as the solar factor (SF) or g (glazing factor).
<b>Thermal envelope</b>	The <i>roof</i> , wall, window, <i>skylight</i> , door and floor <i>construction</i> between <i>unconditioned spaces</i> and <i>conditioned spaces</i> .
<b>Thermal envelope floor area (<math>A_{\text{floor}}</math>)</b>	The area of the floor that forms part of the <i>thermal envelope</i> .
<b>Thermal mass</b>	The heat capacity of the materials of the <i>building</i> affecting <i>building</i> energy loads by storing and releasing heat as the interior and/or exterior temperature and radiant conditions fluctuate.
<b>Thermal resistance</b>	The resistance to heat flow of a given component of a <i>Building element</i> . It is equal to the air temperature difference (K) needed to produce unit heat flux ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ ) through unit area ( $\text{m}^2$ ) under steady conditions. The units are $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{K}/\text{W}$ .
<b>Total roof area</b>	The <i>roof area</i> ( $A_{\text{roof}}$ ) plus the <i>skylight area</i> ( $A_{\text{skylight}}$ ).
<b>Total thermal resistance</b>	The overall air-to-air <i>thermal resistance</i> across all components of a <i>building element</i> such as a wall, <i>roof</i> , or floor.  (This includes the surface resistances which may vary with environmental changes e.g. temperature and humidity, but for most purposes can be regarded as having standard values as given in NZS 4214.)
<b>Total wall area</b>	In relation to a <i>building</i> , means the sum (expressed in square metres) of the following:  a) the <i>wall area</i> of the <i>building</i> ; and b) the area (expressed in square metres) of all vertical windows and doors in <i>external walls</i> of the <i>building</i> .
<b>Unconditioned space</b>	Space within the <i>building envelope</i> that is not <i>conditioned space</i> (for example, this may include a garage, conservatory, atrium, attic, subfloor, and so on). However, where a garage, conservatory or atrium is expected to be heated or cooled these spaces shall be included in the <i>conditioned space</i> .
<b>Wall area</b>	The area of walls that are part of the <i>thermal envelope</i> , excluding the <i>opaque door area</i> and the <i>glazing area</i> .
<b>Whareniui</b>	A communal meeting house having a large open <i>floor area</i> used for both assembly and sleeping in the traditional Māori manner.



## Appendix C. New Zealand climate zones

### C.1 Climate zones

#### C.1.1 Climate zone boundaries

C.1.1.1 There are six climate zones. The climate zone boundaries are based on climatic data taking into consideration territorial authority boundaries.

C.1.1.2 A list of the climate zones for each territorial authority is provided in [Table C.1.1.2](#) and illustrated in [Figure C.1.1.2](#). The list in the table takes precedence over the figure.

## New Zealand climate zones

**TABLE C.1.1.2: Climate zones by territorial authority**

Paragraph C.1.1.2

North Island/Te Ika-a-Māui		South Island/Te Waipounamu	
Territorial authority	Climate zone	Territorial authority	Climate zone
Far North District	1	Tasman District	3
Whangarei District	1	Nelson City	3
Kaipara District	1	Marlborough District	3
Auckland	1	Kaikoura District	3
Thames-Coromandel district	1	Buller District	4
Hauraki District	2	Grey District	4
Waikato District	2	Westland District	4
Matamata-Piako District	2	Hurunui District	5
Hamilton City	2	Waimakariri District	5
Waipa District	2	Christchurch City	5
Ōtorohanga District	2	Selwyn District	5
South Waikato District	2	Ashburton District	5
Waitomo District	2	Timaru District	5
Taupo District	4	Mackenzie District	6
Western Bay of Plenty District	1	Waimate District	5
Tauranga City	1	Chatham Islands	3
Rotorua District	4	Waitaki District (true left of the Otekaieke river)	6
Whakatane District	1	Waitaki District (true right of the Otekaieke river)	5
Kawerau District	1	Central Otago District	6
Ōpōtiki District	1	Queenstown-Lakes District	6
Gisborne District	2	Dunedin City	5
Wairoa District	2	Clutha District	5
Hastings District	2	Southland District	6
Napier City	2	Gore District	6
Central Hawke's Bay District	2	Invercargill City	6
New Plymouth District	2		
Stratford District	2		
South Taranaki District	2		
Ruapehu District	4		
Whanganui District	2		
Rangitikei District (north of 39°50'S (-39.83))	4		
Rangitikei District (south of 39°50'S (-39.83))	3		
Manawatu District	3		
Palmerston North City	3		
Tararua District	4		
Horowhenua District	3		
Kapiti Coast District	3		
Porirua City	3		
Upper Hutt City	4		
Lower Hutt City	3		
Wellington City	3		
Masterton District	4		
Carterton District	4		
South Wairarapa District	4		



## Appendix D. Modelling method – Building energy use comparison

### D.1 Modelling requirements

#### D.1.1 Overview

D.1.1.1 This modelling method is used to assess the energy performance of a proposed *building* by using a simulation of the *building* to predict its space *heating loads* and *cooling loads*. This is compared with the space *heating loads* and *cooling loads* of a reference *building* that is the same shape, dimensions, and orientation as the proposed *building*, but has *building elements* with *construction R-values* from:

- a) For *building elements* that contain embedded heating systems, [Table 2.1.2.2A](#); or
- b) For *building elements* that do not contain embedded heating systems,
  - i) [Table 2.1.2.2B](#) or
  - ii) alternatively, for **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, those in [Table 2.1.2.2C](#).

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D.1.1.2 Both *buildings* shall be simulated using the same method.

#### D.1.2 Modelling principles

D.1.2.1 The proposed *building* and reference *building* shall both be analysed using the same techniques and assumptions except where differences in energy efficiency features that are specified in this appendix require a different approach.

D.1.2.2 The specifications of the proposed *building* used in the analysis shall be as similar as is reasonably practicable to those in the plans submitted for a building consent.

D.1.2.3 The reference *building* shall have the same number of storeys, *floor area* for each storey, orientation and three dimensional form as the proposed *building*. Each floor shall be orientated exactly as the proposed *building*. The geometric form shall be the same as the proposed *building*. The floor(s) that form part of the *thermal envelope* shall be of the same type (*slab-on-ground floor* or other types of floors) in both the reference *building* and the proposed *building*.

D.1.2.4 Features that may differ between the proposed *building* and the reference *building* are:

- a) Wall *construction R-value* and *thermal mass*; and/or
- b) Floor *construction R-value*; and/or
- c) Roof *construction R-value* and *thermal mass*; and/or
- d) Window, door and *skylight* size and orientation, *construction R-value*, *solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC)*, and external shading devices; and/or
- e) Heating, cooling, and ventilation plant (sizing only).

D.1.2.5 The results of the thermal modelling should not be construed as a guarantee of the actual energy use of the *building*.

#### D.1.3 Modelling software

D.1.3.1 If the application for which the software is to be used has been documented according to the ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 140 procedure, then the method shall pass the ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 140 test. If the application for which the software is to be used has not been documented according to the ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 140 procedure, the method shall be tested to the BESTEST and pass the BESTEST.

#### D.1.4 Default values

D.1.4.1 The *default values* and schedules included in this appendix shall be used unless the designer can demonstrate that different assumptions better characterise the *building's* use over its expected life. Any modification of default assumptions shall be used in simulating both the proposed *building* and the reference *building*.

## Modelling method – Building energy use comparison

- D.1.4.2 Other aspects of the *building's* performance for which no *default values* are provided may be simulated according to the designer's discretion as is most appropriate for the *building*, but they must be the same for both the proposed *building* and the reference *building*.
- D.1.4.3 In all the following cases, modelling is to be identical for both the proposed *building* and the reference *building*. Some of these items have limitations on the input values and others have default schedules that may be used when actual figures are not known. In all cases these values shall be reasonable approximations of the requirements of the *building* and its use during its expected life:
- Heating, set-points, and schedules; and
  - Cooling, set-points, and schedules; and
  - Ventilation, set-points, and schedules; and
  - Fresh air ventilation, air change rates, and schedules; and
  - Internal gains loads and schedules; and
  - Occupancy loads and schedules; and
  - The location and *R-values* of carpets and floor coverings; and
  - Incidental shading.

### D.1.5 Climate data

- D.1.5.1 Both the proposed *building* and the reference *building* shall be modelled using the same climate data. The climate data shall be from a weather station that best represents the climate at the *building site*. The climate data shall represent an average year for the site, over at least a 10-year period.



COMMENT: Using the relevant NIWA Typical Meteorological Year climate files is one way to achieve this requirement.

### D.1.6 Thermal zones

- D.1.6.1 For *buildings* with multi-unit dwellings, the model of the proposed *building* and the reference *building* shall be identically and suitably divided into separate thermal zones. Each *household unit* shall be represented by at least one thermal zone.
- D.1.6.2 For all other *buildings*, the model of the proposed *building* and the reference *building* shall be identically and suitably divided into separate thermal zones if the modelling software is capable of dividing the model into multiple thermal zones. If the modelling software is only capable of modelling a single thermal zone, the requirements in Paragraph D.1.6.3 to D.1.6.9 do not apply.
- D.1.6.3 Spaces that are likely to have significantly different space conditioning requirements shall be modelled as separate zones.
- D.1.6.4 The *conditioned space* shall be divided into a minimum of three thermal zones.
- D.1.6.5 *Roof spaces* and enclosed subfloor spaces shall be modelled as thermal zones.
- D.1.6.6 The model shall have a representation of internal conductive heat flows between thermal zones. Internal partitions between thermal zones require modelling and shall be described in terms of their location, surface area, pitch, and *construction R-value*.
- D.1.6.7 The same internal partitions as modelled in the proposed *building* shall be modelled in the reference *building*.
- D.1.6.8 Internal partitions within a thermal zone which may affect the thermal performance of the *building* shall be modelled.
- D.1.6.9 Airflow between thermal zones need not be modelled unless desired.

## Modelling method – Building energy use comparison

### D.1.7 Adjoining spaces

- D.1.7.1 *Building elements* that separate adjoining *conditioned spaces* of dwellings may be assumed to have no heat transfer.
- D.1.7.2 *Building elements* separating *conditioned space* from adjacent *unconditioned space* (for example, a garage) may be modelled with a *construction R-value* that is 0.5 higher than the *actual construction R-value* and zero solar absorptance. This adjustment to the *construction R-value* takes into account the insulation from the still air in the *unconditioned space*.

### D.1.8 Thermal mass

- D.1.8.1 The *thermal mass* may either be modelled:
- The same way for both the proposed *building* and the reference *building*; or
  - As proposed for the proposed *building* and modelled as lightweight for the reference *building*.

### D.1.9 Thermal mass of contents

- D.1.9.1 The *thermal mass* of the contents shall be the same for both models, and may be regarded as zero for modelling purposes.

### D.1.10 Floor coverings

- D.1.10.1 Floor coverings shall be modelled as proposed in both the proposed *building* and the reference *building*. If no floor coverings are specified, ceramic tiles shall be modelled in wet areas (kitchens, bathrooms, toilets, and laundries) and carpet to all other areas.

### D.1.11 Shading

- D.1.11.1 Exterior shading such as fins and overhangs shall be modelled as proposed in the proposed *building*, but need not be modelled in the reference *building*.
- D.1.11.2 No account shall be taken of internal shading devices such as blinds, drapes, and other non-permanent window treatments.

### D.1.12 Incidental shading

- D.1.12.1 Shading by structures and terrain that have a significant effect on the *building* shall be modelled in the same way for the proposed *building* and the reference *building*.
- D.1.12.2 No account shall be taken of trees or vegetation.

### D.1.13 Infiltration

- D.1.13.1 Infiltration assumptions for the proposed *building* and the reference *building* shall be the same, and shall be reasonable for the *building construction*, location, and use.

## D.2 Thermal envelope

### D.2.1 Thermal envelope building elements

- D.2.1.1 All *building elements* shall be described in terms of surface area, orientation, pitch, and *construction R-value*. *Glazing areas* shall have their *solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC)* specified.
- D.2.1.2 The solar absorption of external *building elements*, except as specified in Paragraph D.1.11.2, shall be modelled in both the proposed *building* and reference *building* as proposed. If solar absorption is not specified, they shall be modelled in both the proposed *building* and reference *building* as 0.5.
- D.2.1.3 When the modelling program calculates and adds its own surface resistances to the input resistance, the input resistances shall be the *R-values* derived as specified in this method less the standardised surface resistances of 0.03 m<sup>2</sup>·K/W outside and 0.09 m<sup>2</sup>·K/W inside (0.12 m<sup>2</sup>·K/W total). The same method of calculation shall be used for the proposed *building* and the reference *building*.
- D.2.1.4 When using a modelling program that uses inputs for describing the *thermal resistance* of *slab-on-ground floors* that are different to the *construction R-value* of *slab-on-ground floors* as defined in [Paragraph 2.1.3.3 e\)](#) (e.g. not from the inside air to the outside air):

## Modelling method – Building energy use comparison

- a) In the reference *building*, any *slab-on-ground floor* shall be modelled with a *construction* type selected from Tables F.1.2.2A to F.1.2.2X in Acceptable Solution H1/AS1 Appendix F. For the slab area-to-perimeter ratio, *external wall* cladding type and *external wall* effective thickness of the reference *building*, the selected *construction* type must have a *construction R-value* that is equal to or greater than the minimum *R-value* for *slab-on-ground floors* specified in [Paragraph 2.1.2.2](#); and
- b) In the proposed *building*, using the methods specified in [Appendix F](#), any *slab-on-ground floor* must, as a minimum, meet the *construction R-value* for *slab-on-ground floors* in:
  - i) For floors that contain embedded heating systems, [Table 2.1.2.2A](#); or
  - ii) For floors that do not contain embedded heating systems,
    - i) [Table 2.1.2.2B](#) or
    - ii) alternatively, for **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, those in [Table 2.1.2.2C](#).

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### D.2.2 Glazing

D.2.2.1 If the *glazing area* in the proposed *building* is more than 30% of the *total wall area*, then the *glazing area* of the reference *building* shall be 30% of the *total wall area*. If the *glazing area* of the proposed *building* is 30% or less of the *total wall area*, then the *glazing area* of the reference *building* shall either be the same as the proposed *building* or 30% of the *total wall area* (at the discretion of the modeller).

D.2.2.2 If the *glazing areas* in the proposed *building* and the reference *building* are different, then the *glazing area* in the reference *building* shall either be distributed evenly around the *building*, or the size of each glazed unit be changed by the same proportion to achieve a *glazing area* of 30% and be modelled in the same location with the same head height as in the proposed *building*.

### D.2.3 Skylights

D.2.3.1 In the reference *building* the *roof area* ( $A_{\text{roof}}$ ) shall be set equal to the *total roof area* and the *skylight area* ( $A_{\text{skylight}}$ ) shall be set to zero.

### D.2.4 Door area

D.2.4.1 In the reference *building*:

- a) The *opaque door area* that is no more than either 6 m<sup>2</sup> or 6% of the *total wall area* (whichever is greater) shall have the same *construction R-value* as the reference *building* windows (or higher at the designer's discretion); and
- b) Any remaining *opaque door area* shall have the same *construction R-value* as the reference *building* wall.

## D.3 Space conditioning

### D.3.1 Control temperatures

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D.3.1.1 For **housing**, a minimum temperature of 18°C or higher at any time, and a maximum temperature of 25°C or lower at any time, is required to be modelled. Prior to the use of artificial cooling, natural ventilation shall be modelled at a set point of 24°C provided the outdoor air temperature is lower than the indoor air temperature. The ventilation rate shall be reasonable for the amount of available venting area for each zone and shall be the same for the proposed *building* and reference *building*.

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D.3.1.2 For *buildings* other than **housing**, a minimum temperature of 18°C and a maximum temperature of 25°C from 8am – 6pm, five days a week, shall be modelled unless a different schedule can be justified for the life of the *building*.

### D.3.2 Fresh air ventilation

D.3.2.1 The fresh air ventilation rate and schedule shall be the same for both the proposed *building* and the reference *building*. The minimum fresh air ventilation rate shall be:

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- a) 0.5 air changes per hour for **housing**; and
- b) As specified in NZS 4303 for other *buildings*.

## Modelling method – Building energy use comparison

### D.3.3 Conditioning system modelling

D.3.3.1 The calculation of the annual loads for space heating and cooling does not include an assessment of heating, cooling, and ventilating equipment. A simulation of the heating, cooling, and ventilating equipment is not required, but shall be the same for the proposed *building* and reference *building* if modelled. Sizing is the only feature that may be changed in response to load requirements.

## D.4 Internal loads

### D.4.1 Lighting

D.4.1.1 Lighting need not be modelled. However, if it is, it shall be the same for both the proposed *building* and the reference *building*.

### D.4.2 Domestic hot water

D.4.2.1 For both the proposed *building* and the reference *building*, the power density for an internal cylinder shall either be ignored, or the *default value* from [Table D.5.1.1](#) shall be used.

### D.4.3 Occupant and plug loads

D.4.3.1 The maximum heat release into a *building* from occupants and *plug loads* is provided in [Table D.5.1.1](#) and is modified to provide *default values* for heat release at different times of day. The modification factors are provided for:

- a) **Housing** in [Table D.5.1.2A](#); and
- b) **Communal residential** including hotels, motels, and health consultancies in [Table D.5.1.2B](#); and
- c) **Communal non-residential** assembly care including schools in [Table D.5.1.2C](#); and
- d) **Commercial** including offices, restaurants, and retail shops in [Table D.5.1.2D](#).

D.4.3.2 These *default values* shall be used unless other suitable parameters specific to the *building's* use are shown to be more appropriate. All internal gains are regarded as sensible heat.



COMMENT: For **housing**, other suitable *default values* are available in the Passive House Planning Package (PHPP), version 9, 2015 or the New Zealand Green Building Council Energy and Carbon Calculator for Homes (ECCHO), 2021. These tools can be accessed from [www.passivehouse.com](http://www.passivehouse.com) and [www.nzgbc.org.nz](http://www.nzgbc.org.nz).

D.4.3.3 *Unconditioned spaces* shall be assigned zero internal gains.

### D.4.4 Process loads

D.4.4.1 Process loads are those *heat loads* that result from the production of goods within a *building*.

D.4.4.2 Only in circumstances where process loads are significant, and it can be shown that they will continue for the expected life of the *building*, may they be modelled. Process loads shall be the same in both the proposed *building* and reference *buildings*.





## Modelling method – Building energy use comparison

## D.5 Reference building

## D.5.1 Schedules

D.5.1.1 The default power densities for internal gains from occupants and *plug load* are provided in [Table D.5.1.1](#).

**TABLE D.5.1.1: Default power densities for internal gains from occupants and plug loads**

Paragraphs D.4.3.1, D.5.1.1

Classified use	Applies to <sup>(1)</sup>	Occupancy (W/m <sup>2</sup> )	Plug load (W/m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>H</b>	<b>Housing</b>	<sup>(2)</sup>	24.5
<b>CR</b>	Community service – hotels and motels	2.9	2.7
	Community care – Unrestrained – health/institutional	3.6	10.7
<b>CN</b>	Assembly care – schools	9.7	5.4
<b>Com</b>	Office	2.7	8.1
	Restaurant	7.3	1.1
	Retail shop	2.4	2.7
	Car park	N/A	N/A

**Notes:**

- (1) If an activity for the proposed *building* is not specifically described, use the nearest description for both the proposed *building* and the reference *building*.
- (2) **Housing** modelling assumptions:
- (a) Domestic hot water (DHW) contribution (per *building* for each internal cylinder) is 100 W
  - (b) Occupants (up to 50 m<sup>2</sup> *floor area*) (sensible heat) are 150 W
  - (c) Occupants (per m<sup>2</sup> over 50 m<sup>2</sup> *floor area*) (sensible heat) are 3 W/m<sup>2</sup>

D.5.1.2 The default schedules for occupancy and *plug loads* are provided for:



- a) **Housing** in [Table D.5.1.2A](#); and
- b) **Communal residential** including hotels, motels, and health consultancies in [Table D.5.1.2.B](#); and
- c) **Communal non-residential** assembly care including schools in [Table D.5.1.2C](#); and
- d) **Commercial** including offices, restaurants, and retail shops in [Table D.5.1.2D](#).

**TABLE D.5.1.2A: Default schedules for occupancy and plug loads – Percentage of maximum load or percentage of power density for housing**

Paragraphs D.4.3.1 a), D.5.1.2 a)

Housing						
Occupancy	12 am – 8 am	8 am – 11 am	11 am – 6 pm	6 pm – 10 pm	10 pm – 12 am	
<b>Week</b>	100	60	60	100	100	
<b>Saturday</b>	100	100	50	70	100	
<b>Sunday</b>	100	100	50	70	100	
Plug load						
<b>Week</b>	3	23	23	27	20	
<b>Saturday</b>	3	23	23	27	20	
<b>Sunday</b>	3	23	23	27	20	

## Modelling method – Building energy use comparison

**TABLE D.5.1.2B:** Default schedules for occupancy and plug loads – Percentage of maximum load or percentage of power density for communal residential

Paragraphs D.4.3.1 b), D.5.1.2 b)

Community service – Hotels and motels					
Occupancy	12 am – 8 am	8 am – 11 am	11 am – 6 pm	6 pm – 10 pm	10 pm – 12 am
Week	90	40	20	70	90
Saturday	90	50	30	60	70
Sunday	70	70	30	60	80
Plug load					
Week	10	40	25	60	60
Saturday	10	40	25	60	60
Sunday	10	30	30	50	50
Community service – residential care such as retirement village					
Occupancy	12 am – 8 am	8 am – 11 am	11 am – 6 pm	6 pm – 10 pm	10 pm – 12 am
Week	70	90	90	85	70
Saturday	70	90	90	85	70
Sunday	70	90	90	85	70
Plug load					
Week	20	90	85	80	20
Saturday	20	90	85	80	20
Sunday	20	90	85	80	20
Community care – Health/medical specialist					
Occupancy	12 am – 8 am	8 am – 11 am	11 am – 6 pm	6 pm – 10 pm	10 pm – 12 am
Week	0	80	80	30	0
Saturday	0	40	40	0	0
Sunday	0	5	5	0	0
Plug load					
Week	10	90	90	30	10
Saturday	10	40	40	10	10
Sunday	5	10	10	5	5

**TABLE D.5.1.2C:** Default schedules for occupancy and plug loads – Percentage of maximum load or percentage of power density for communal non-residential – assembly care

Paragraphs D.4.3.1 c), D.5.1.2 c)

Schools					
Occupancy	12 am – 8 am	8 am – 11 am	11 am – 6 pm	6 pm – 10 pm	10 pm – 12 am
Week	0	95	95	10	0
Saturday	0	10	10	0	0
Sunday	0	0	0	0	0
Plug load					
Week	5	95	95	30	5
Saturday	5	15	15	5	5
Sunday	5	5	5	5	5

## Modelling method – Building energy use comparison

**TABLE D.5.1.2D: Default schedules for occupancy and plug loads – Percentage of maximum load or percentage of power density for commercial buildings**

Paragraphs D.4.3.1 d), D.5.1.2 d)

Office						
Occupancy	12 am – 8 am	8 am – 11 am	11 am – 6 pm	6 pm – 10 pm	10 pm – 12 am	
Week	0	95	95	5	0	
Saturday	0	10	5	0	0	
Sunday	0	5	5	0	0	
Plug load						
Week	5	90	90	30	5	
Saturday	5	30	15	5	5	
Sunday	5	5	5	5	5	
Restaurant						
Occupancy	12 am – 8 am	8 am – 11 am	11 am – 6 pm	6 pm – 10 pm	10 pm – 12 am	
Week	0	5	50	80	35	
Saturday	0	0	45	70	55	
Sunday	0	0	20	55	20	
Plug load						
Week	15	40	90	90	50	
Saturday	15	30	80	90	50	
Sunday	15	30	70	60	50	
Retail shop						
Occupancy	12 am – 8 am	8 am – 11 am	11 am – 6 pm	6 pm – 10 pm	10 pm – 12 am	
Week	0	60	70	40	0	
Saturday	0	60	80	20	0	
Sunday	0	10	40	0	0	
Plug load						
Week	5	90	90	50	5	
Saturday	5	90	90	30	5	
Sunday	5	40	40	5	5	

## D.6 Documentation

### D.6.1 Documentation of analysis

D.6.1.1.1 Documentation of computer modelling analysis shall contain:

- The name of the modeller;
- The thermal modelling program name, version number, and supplier;
- Technical detail on the proposed *building* and reference *building* designs and the differences between the designs;
- The sum of the *heating load* and *cooling load* for the proposed *building* and reference *building*;
- Where possible, the *heating load* and *cooling load* for the proposed *building* and the reference *building*.

## Appendix E. Windows, doors, skylights, and curtain walling

### E.1 Vertical windows and doors

#### E.1.1 Methods for determining construction R-values

E.1.1.1 The *construction R-values* for vertical windows and doors shall be determined using one of the following methods:

- a) Calculation of the *construction R-value* of each individual window and door that is part of the *thermal envelope*, in accordance with Section E.1.2; or
- b) Calculation of the representative *construction R-value* of all windows and doors that are part of the *thermal envelope* of the proposed *building*, which is then deemed to apply to all windows and doors of the proposed *building*, in accordance with [Section E.1.3](#); or
- c) For **housing** only, based on the performance tables in Acceptable Solution H1/AS1 Appendix E.



COMMENT: The window size and frame material have a major impact on the *construction R-value* of a window as a *building element*. Often the *thermal resistances* of the glazing and the frames are dissimilar. For large windows, the *thermal resistance* of the glazing will have more impact on the overall window *construction R-value* than in a small window, which is dominated by the frame performance. This means that the *construction R-values* of two differently-sized windows consisting of identical frame and glazing materials will usually be dissimilar.

#### E.1.2 Calculation of the construction R-value of each individual window and door that is part of the thermal envelope

E.1.2.1 For each window that is part of the *thermal envelope* of the proposed *building*, the window *construction R-value* ( $R_w$ ) shall be calculated in accordance with Equation E.1. The *construction R-value* shall be rounded down to no less than two significant figures.

$$\text{Equation E.1.: } R_w = \frac{1}{U_w}$$

where:

$R_w$  is the *construction R-value* of the window ( $\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K}/\text{W}$ ); and

$U_w$  is the thermal transmittance of the window ( $\text{W}/(\text{m}^2\text{ K})$ ), determined in accordance with Paragraph E.1.2.2.

E.1.2.2 The thermal transmittance ( $U_w$ ) of each vertical window that is part of the *thermal envelope* of the proposed *building* shall be determined in accordance with ISO 10077-1, with:

- a) The thermal transmittance of the glazing ( $U_g$ ) determined using BS EN 673; and
- b) The thermal transmittance of the frame ( $U_f$ ) determined using ISO 10077-2. For frames with special extensions overlapping the wall or other *building elements*, such as frames with flanges to the cladding, the following deviations from ISO 10077-2 Section 6.3.1, are permitted:
  - i) Special extensions may be disregarded or included in the calculation model, but shall be disregarded when determining the projected width of the frame section ( $b_f$ ) as per ISO 10077-2: 2017 Appendix F; and
  - ii) Window reveal liners that are integral with the window unit may either be disregarded or included in the calculation model.

## Windows, doors, skylights, and curtain walling

E.1.2.3 For each door that is part of the *thermal envelope* of the proposed *building*, the door *construction R-value* ( $R_D$ ) shall be calculated in accordance with Equation E.2. The *construction R-value* shall be rounded down to no less than two significant figures.

$$\text{Equation E.2: } R_D = \frac{1}{U_D}$$

where:

$R_D$  is the *construction R-value* of the door ( $\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K}/\text{W}$ ); and

$U_D$  is the thermal transmittance of the door ( $\text{W}/(\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K})$ ), determined in accordance with Paragraph E.1.2.4.



COMMENT: The door *construction R-value* ( $R_D$ ) includes the effects of the frame, any glazing and any opaque panels.

E.1.2.4 The thermal transmittance ( $U_D$ ) of each door that is part of the *thermal envelope* of the proposed *building* shall be determined in accordance with ISO 10077-1, with:

- a) The thermal transmittance of any glazing ( $U_g$ ) determined using BS EN 673; and
- b) The thermal transmittance of the frame ( $U_f$ ) determined using ISO 10077-2. For frames with special extensions overlapping the wall or other *building elements*, such as frames with flanges to the cladding, the following deviations from ISO 10077-2 Section 6.3.1, are permitted:
  - i) special extensions may be disregarded or included in the calculation model, but shall be disregarded when determining the projected width of the frame section ( $b_f$ ) as per ISO 10077-2 Appendix F; and
  - ii) door reveal liners that are integral with the door unit may either be disregarded or included in the calculation model.

### E.1.3 Calculation of the representative construction R-value of all windows and doors that are part of the thermal envelope

E.1.3.1 The representative window and door *construction R-value* ( $R_{WD}$ ) shall be calculated in accordance with Equation E.3. The *construction R-value* shall be rounded down to no less than two significant figures.

$$\text{Equation E.3: } R_{WD} = \frac{\sum A_w + \sum A_D}{\frac{\sum A_w}{R_w} + \frac{\sum A_D}{R_D}}$$

where:

$R_w$  is the *construction R-value* of each vertical window that is part of the *thermal envelope* of the proposed *building* ( $\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K}/\text{W}$ ), calculated in accordance with Section E.1.2.1; and

$A_w$  is the window area of each vertical window that is part of the *thermal envelope* of the proposed *building* ( $\text{m}^2$ ), calculated in accordance with ISO 10077-1 Section 6.3.1; and

$R_D$  is the *construction R-value* of each door that is part of the *thermal envelope* of the proposed *building* ( $\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K}/\text{W}$ ), calculated in accordance with Section E.1.2.3.; and

$A_D$  is the *door area* of each door that is part of the *thermal envelope* of the proposed *building* ( $\text{m}^2$ ), calculated in accordance with ISO 10077-1 Section 6.3.1.

## E.2 Skylights

### E.2.1 Construction R-values

E.2.1.1 The *construction R-values* for *skylights* ( $R_{\text{skylight}}$ ) shall include the effects of both the glazing materials and the frame materials and shall be calculated in accordance with Equation E.4. The *construction R-value* shall be rounded down to no less than two significant figures.

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Equation E.4:  $R_{\text{skylight}} = \frac{1}{U_w}$

where:

$R_{\text{skylight}}$  is the *construction R-value* of the *skylight* ( $\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K}/\text{W}$ ); and

$U_w$  is the thermal transmittance of the *skylight* ( $\text{W}/(\text{m}^2 \text{K})$ ), determined in accordance with Paragraph E.2.1.2.

E.2.1.2 The thermal transmittance ( $U_w$ ) of a *skylight* shall be determined in accordance with ISO 10077-1, with:

- a) the thermal transmittance of the glazing ( $U_g$ ) determined using BS EN 673, considering the effects of horizontal or angled glazing on the heat transfer; and
- b) the thermal transmittance of the frame ( $U_f$ ) determined using ISO 10077-2.

### E.3 Curtain walling

#### E.3.1 Construction R-value

E.3.1.1 The *construction R-values for curtain walling* ( $R_{\text{CW}}$ ) shall be calculated in accordance with [Equation E.5](#). The *construction R-value* shall be rounded down to no less than two significant figures.

Equation E.5:  $R_{\text{CW}} = \frac{1}{U_{\text{CW}}}$

where:

$R_{\text{CW}}$  is the *construction R-value* of the *curtain walling* ( $\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K}/\text{W}$ ); and

$U_{\text{CW}}$  is the thermal transmittance of the *curtain walling* ( $\text{W}/(\text{m}^2 \text{K})$ ), determined in accordance with ISO 12631, with the thermal transmittance of the glazing ( $U_g$ ) determined using BS EN 673.

## Appendix F. Thermal resistance of slab-on-ground floors

### F.1 Construction R-values

#### F.1.1 Methods for determining construction R-values for slab-on-ground floors

F.1.1.1 The *construction R-values* for concrete *slab-on-ground floors*, including floors of basements that contain *conditioned spaces*, shall be determined using:

- a) The calculation method described in Section F.1.2; or
- b) The performance tables in Acceptable Solution H1/AS1 Appendix F.

**H** F.1.1.2 For **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, concrete *slab-on-ground floors* are deemed to achieve a *construction R-value* of R1.3.



#### COMMENT:

1. The *thermal resistances* for *slab-on-ground floors* provided in the BRANZ House Insulation Guide, 5th edition or earlier, should not be used for determining compliance with the requirements of this verification method. This is because they are based on a different calculation method and different assumptions than those specified in this Appendix.
2. Where a concrete floor is only partially in contact with the ground, with other parts being suspended, the part that is in contact with the ground shall be treated as a slab-on-ground floor, and the other part be treated as a suspended floor.

#### F.1.2 Calculating slab-on-ground floor R-values

F.1.2.1 The *construction R-value* of *slab-on-ground floors* shall be calculated from the inside air to the outside air. The effect of floor coverings (including carpets) shall be ignored.

F.1.2.2 The calculation shall be based on a three-dimensional numerical calculation in accordance with ISO 13370 Section 5.2a), or a two-dimensional numerical calculation in accordance with ISO 13370 Section 5.2b). The formulae provided in ISO 13370 Section 7 and Annex D shall not be used for determining the *construction R-value* of *slab-on-ground floors*.

F.1.2.3 When using a two-dimensional numerical calculation in accordance with ISO 13370 Section 5.2b), a geometrical model in accordance with ISO 10211 Sections 7.3, 12.4.1 and 12.4.2 shall be used. The model shall have a floor width equal to half the characteristic dimension of the floor. The characteristic dimension of the floor shall be determined using overall internal dimensions (ignoring internal partitions, as per ISO 13789).



#### COMMENT:

1. The characteristic dimension of the floor (B as defined in ISO 13370) equals the area of the floor divided by half the perimeter of the floor.
2. Paragraph F1.2.3. requires a two-dimensional geometrical model with a floor width equal to half the characteristic dimension of the floor. This represents a floor that is infinitely long and has a width equal to the characteristic dimension of the floor.

F.1.2.4 For *slab-on-ground floors* of inhomogeneous *construction*, such as concrete raft foundation floors, the results of any two-dimensional numerical calculation in accordance with ISO 13370 Section 5.2b) shall be validated by three-dimensional numerical calculations in accordance with ISO 13370 Section 5.2a).

## Thermal resistance of slab-on-ground floors



### COMMENT:

ISO 13370 Sections 5.2 a) and b) specify that the result of a three-dimensional numerical calculation is applicable only for the actual floor dimensions modelled, whereas the result of a two-dimensional numerical calculation is applicable to floors having the characteristic dimension that was modelled. Therefore, the result of a two-dimensional numerical calculation can have wider application, but, depending on the floor *construction*, may need to be validated by comparing the result against the result of a three-dimensional numerical calculation. This should be done for a sample across a range of floor dimensions that the resulting *construction R-value* is to be applied to.

- F.1.2.5 The *external wall* shall be included in the model and extend 500 mm above the internal floor surface. For framed walls, the only framing member to be included in the model shall be the bottom plate.
- F.1.2.6 The calculation shall use the *default values* for the thermal properties of the ground from ISO 13370 Table 7 category 2 (thermal conductivity  $\lambda=2.0$  W/(m·K), heat capacity per volume  $pc=2.0 \times 10^6$  J/(m<sup>3</sup>K)). For other materials, thermal conductivity values from ISO 10456 shall be used and, for materials used below ground level, reflect the moisture and temperature conditions of the application. Values of surface resistance shall conform to ISO 13370 Section 6.4.3.
- F.1.2.7 The *construction R-value* of the *slab-on-ground floor* shall be calculated according to Equation F.1. The *construction R-value* shall be rounded down to no less than two significant figures.

$$\text{Equation F.1: } R_{\text{floor}} = \frac{1}{U}$$

where:

$R_{\text{floor}}$  is the *construction R-value* of the *slab-on-ground floor* (m<sup>2</sup>·K/W); and

U is the temperature-specific heat flux through the internal floor surface of the two- or three-dimensional geometrical model, with the internal floor surface extending from the internal surface of the *external wall* to the cut-off plane of the floor (W/(m<sup>2</sup>·K)), determined by a numerical calculation as per F.1.2.1 to F.1.2.6.



### COMMENT:

A commonly used two-dimensional heat-transfer analysis software tool is THERM, developed at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). When using THERM, the temperature specific heat flux U (required by Equation F.1) is the 'U-factor' of the internal floor surface of the two-dimensional geometrical model.



# BUILDING PERFORMANCE

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