



Department of  
Building and Housing  
*Te Tari Kaupapa Whare*

Dear Customer

Please find enclosed Amendment 2, effective 10 October 2011, to the Compliance Document for Clause G5 Interior Environment of the New Zealand Building Code.

You should have this version of the amendment if you purchased your copy of G5 from Standards New Zealand prior to July 2001.

<b>Section</b>	<b>Old G5</b>	<b>October 2011 Amendments to G5</b>
Title pages	Remove title page and document history	Replace with new title page and document history
Code Clause G5	Remove page iii/iv	Replace with new page iii/iv
Contents/References	Remove page v/vi	Replace with new page v/vi
Definitions	Remove page vii/viii	Replace with new page vii/viii



# Compliance Document for New Zealand Building Code Clause G5 Interior Environment

Prepared by the Department of Building and Housing

This Compliance Document is prepared by the Department of Building and Housing. The Department of Building and Housing is a Government Department established under the State Sector Act 1988.

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## New Zealand Government

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## Status of Compliance Documents

Compliance Documents are prepared by the Department of Building and Housing in accordance with section 22 of the Building Act 2004. A Compliance Document is for use in establishing compliance with the New Zealand Building Code.

A person who complies with a Compliance Document will be treated as having complied with the provisions of the Building Code to which the Compliance Document relates. However, a Compliance Document is only one method of complying with the Building Code. There may be alternative ways to comply.

Users should make themselves familiar with the preface to the New Zealand Building Code Handbook, which describes the status of Compliance Documents and explains alternative methods of achieving compliance.

Defined words (italicised in the text) and classified uses are explained in Clauses A1 and A2 of the Building Code and in the Definitions at the start of this Compliance Document.

<b>G5: Document History</b>		
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Alterations</b>
First published	July 1992	
Amendment 1	1 July 2001	p. 2, Document History, Status p. 3, NZBC p. 7, References p. 9, Definitions
Amendment 2	10 October 2011	p. 2, Document History, Status p. iii, Code Clause G5 p. vi, References p. vii, Definitions

**Note:** Page numbers relate to the document at the time of Amendment and may not match page numbers in current document.

### Document Status

The most recent version of this document, as detailed in the Document History, is approved by the Chief Executive of the Department of Building and Housing. It is effective from 10 October 2011 and supersedes all previous versions of this document.

People using this Compliance Document should check for amendments on a regular basis. The Department of Building and Housing may amend any part of any Compliance Document at any time. Up-to-date versions of Compliance Documents are available from [www.dbh.govt.nz](http://www.dbh.govt.nz)

# New Zealand Building Code

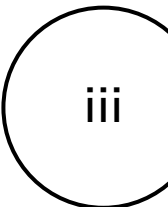
## Clause G5 Interior Environment

This Clause is extracted from the New Zealand Building Code contained in the First Schedule of the Building Regulations 1992.

Amend 1  
Jul 2001  
Amend 2  
Oct 2011

<b>FIRST SCHEDULE—continued</b>	
<b>Clause G5—INTERIOR ENVIRONMENT</b>	
<b>Provisions</b>	<b>Limits on application</b>
<p><b>OBJECTIVE</b>  <b>G5.1</b> The objective of this provision is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Safeguard people from illness caused by low air temperature,</li> <li>(b) Safeguard people from injury or loss of <i>amenity</i> caused by inadequate activity space,</li> <li>(c) Safeguard people from injury caused by unsafe installations, and</li> <li>(d) Ensure that <i>people with disabilities</i> are able to carry out normal activities and processes within <i>buildings</i>.</li> </ul> <p><b>FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENT</b>  <b>G5.2.1</b> <i>Buildings</i> shall be <i>constructed</i> to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) An <i>adequate</i>, controlled interior temperature,</li> <li>(b) <i>Adequate</i> activity space for the intended use, and</li> <li>(c) <i>Accessible</i> spaces and facilities.</li> </ul> <p><b>G5.2.2</b> Heating appliances in <i>buildings</i> shall be installed in a way that reduces the likelihood of injury.</p> <p><b>PERFORMANCE</b>  <b>G5.3.1</b> <i>Habitable spaces</i>, bathrooms and recreation rooms shall have the provision for maintaining the internal temperature at no less than 16°C measured at 750 mm above floor level, while the space is <i>adequately</i> ventilated.</p>	<p>Objective G5.1(d) shall apply only to those <i>buildings</i> to which section 47A of the Act applies.</p> <p>Requirement G5.2.1 (a) shall apply only to <i>habitable spaces</i>, bathrooms and recreation rooms in old people’s homes and early childhood centres.</p> <p>Requirement G5.2.1 (b) shall apply only to old people’s homes.</p> <p>Requirement G5.2.1 (c) shall apply only to <i>Communal Residential</i>, <i>Communal Non-residential</i>, and <i>Commercial buildings</i>.</p> <p>Performance G5.3.1 shall apply only to old people’s homes and early childhood centres.</p>

Note: Section 47A is in the Building Act 1991. The equivalent section in the Building Act 2004 is section 118.  
 Effective from 29 December 2000



**FIRST SCHEDULE—continued**

**Provisions**

**G5.3.2** Heating appliances, and any attached cables, pipes or other fittings shall be securely fixed in place.

**G5.3.3** *Habitable spaces* shall have sufficient space for activity, furniture, and sanitary and mobility aids.

**G5.3.4** Where reception counters or desks are provided for public use, at least one counter or desk shall be *accessible*.

**G5.3.5** *Buildings* shall be provided with listening systems which enable enhanced hearing by people with hearing aids.

**G5.3.6** Enhanced listening systems shall be identified by signs complying the Clause F8 “Signs”.

**Limits on application**

Performance G5.3.2 shall apply only to old people’s homes and early childhood centres.

Performance G5.3.3 shall apply only to old people’s homes.

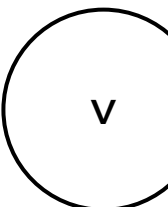
Performance G5.3.4 applies only to *Communal Residential, Communal Non-Residential, and Commercial buildings*.

Performance G5.3.5 applies only to:

- (a) *Communal Non-residential* assembly spaces occupied by more than 250 people, and
- (b) Any theatre, cinema, or public hall, and
- (c) Assembly spaces in old people’s homes occupied by more than 20 people.

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# References

Amend 1  
Jul 2001

For the purposes of New Zealand Building Code (NZBC) compliance, the Standards and documents referenced in this Compliance Document (primary reference documents) must be the editions, along with their specific amendments, listed below. Where these primary reference documents refer to other Standards or documents (secondary reference documents), which in turn may also refer to other Standards or documents, and so on (lower-order reference documents), then the version in effect at the date of publication of this Compliance Document must be used.

Amend 2  
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## Standards Association of New Zealand

Amend 1  
Jul 2001

NZS 4121: 2001 Design for access and mobility – Buildings and associated facilities

Amend 2  
Oct 2011

NZS 4214: 2006 Methods of determining the total thermal resistance of parts of buildings

## Where quoted

AS1 3.0.1

Definitions

# Definitions

This is an abbreviated list of definitions for words or terms particularly relevant to this Compliance Document. The definitions for any other italicised words may be found in the New Zealand Building Code Handbook.

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**Accessible** Having features to permit use by *people with disabilities*.

**Adequate** *Adequate* to achieve the objectives of the *building code*.

**Amenity** An attribute of a *building* which contributes to the health, physical independence, and well being of the *building's* users but which is not associated with disease or a specific illness.

Amend 2  
Oct 2011

**Building** has the meaning given to it by sections 8 and 9 of the *Building Act 2004*.

**Building element** Any structural and non-structural component or assembly incorporated into or associated with a *building*. Included are *fixtures*, services, drains, permanent mechanical installations for access, glazing, partitions, ceilings and temporary supports.

**Fixture** An article intended to remain permanently attached to and form part of a *building*.

**Habitable space** A space used for activities normally associated with domestic living, but excludes any bathroom, laundry, water-closet, pantry, walk-in wardrobe, corridor, hallway, lobby, clothes-drying room, or other space of a specialised nature occupied neither frequently nor for extended periods.

**Intended use** in relation to a *building*,—

- (a) includes any or all of the following:
  - (i) any reasonably foreseeable occasional use that is not incompatible with the *intended use*:
  - (ii) normal maintenance:
  - (iii) activities undertaken in response to *fire* or any other reasonably foreseeable emergency; but
- (b) does not include any other maintenance and repairs or rebuilding.

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**Person with a disability** means a *person* who has an impairment or a combination of impairments that limits the extent to which the *person* can engage in the activities, pursuits, and processes of everyday life, including, without limitation, any of the following:

- (a) a physical, sensory, neurological, or intellectual impairment:
- (b) a mental illness.

**R-value** The common abbreviation for describing the values of both *thermal resistance* and *total thermal resistance*.

**Thermal resistance** The resistance to heat flow of a given component of a *building element*. It is equal to the temperature difference (°C) needed to produce unit heat flux (W/m<sup>2</sup>) through unit area (m<sup>2</sup>) under steady conditions. The units are °Cm<sup>2</sup>/W.

**Total thermal resistance** The overall air-to-air *thermal resistance* across all components of a *building element* such as a wall, roof 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.)

Amend 1  
Jul 2001

Amend 2  
Oct 2011

