

Compliance

What is Compliance...

Section 17 of the Building Act 2004 says,

“All building work must comply with Building Code

All building work must comply with the [Building Code](#) to the extent required by this Act, whether or not a building consent is required in respect of that building work.”

Complying with the Building Code involves ensuring your building work meets the performance standards set out in the code, which are enforced by a building consent authority (BCA). They will assess the plans and specifications for the project to ensure the proposed building work will comply with the Building Code. When the BCA is satisfied, it will issue a building consent for the work to proceed. If the work is built to the consented plans and receives a code compliance certificate, it confirms the requirements of the Building Code have been met.

But what does compliance mean when referring to windows and doors? In summary of the above, it means demonstrating, or providing evidence, that the product complies with the applicable provisions of the Building Code, showing it is suitable for use within the building and the site the building is being constructed on.

There are 14 Clauses of the Building Code that might apply to windows, doors, and glazing depending on the situation they are being used within, but for the most part there are two MBIE documents that set the scene for window compliance, the Building Product Information Requirements (BPIR) and the Building Product Specifications (BPS).

Building Product Information Requirements

The BPIR regulations were introduced in December 2023, and their intent is to ensure disclosure of specific details/information building products that is accessible by consumers, architects/designers, and or BCAs to enable transparent review of building products and how they will contribute to compliance with the Building Code.

The regulations place obligations on all manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, retailers, and distributors based in Aotearoa New Zealand, and require them to produce the required building product information and provide it **online for free**, at the time the product is for sale.

The regulations set two classes of designated building products, and windows and doors are considered as class 2,

*A **class 2 designated building product** is a building product that is based on a line of products where each unit is customised to the specification of an individual client, is new (not used), and when used in building work, may affect whether the building work complies with the Building Code.*

The BPIR statement ***must specify*** the following,

- the clauses of the Building Code that are relevant to the product, within its intended scope of use,
- how the building product is expected to contribute to compliance with the relevant Building Code clauses any,
- information on the limitations on the use of the product line from which the building product is customised, within its intended scope of use,
- any design requirements that would support the appropriate use of any building product that will be customised from the building product line,
- any limitations on the use of the building product,
- any design requirements that would support the appropriate use of the building product,
- any installation requirements,
- any maintenance requirements,
- a statement about whether the building product is or is not subject to a warning or ban under [section 26 of the Building Act 2004](#).

A full [checklist of building product information requirements](#) is available on the Building Performance website.

Building Product Specifications

The BPS were introduced in July 2025 and contain specifications for building products in relation to their manufacture, fabrication, testing, quality control, physical properties, performance, installation, and/or maintenance.

The BPS is used in conjunction with an acceptable solution or verification method to demonstrate compliance with the Building Code, but not in isolation. An AS or VM will cite the BPS where applicable, to include relevant product specification information. Where this occurs, the BPS forms part of the AS or VM and products specified must be used within the scope and limitations of the of the documents. When a product complies with a standard cited in the BPS and is used in a way which complies with the AS or VM, then it is deemed as complying with the Building Code.

[Section 4.4 of the BPS](#) refers to windows, doors, and glazing and references the following standards for window performance,

- NZS 4211:2008 - Specification for the performance of windows,
- SNZ TS 4211:2022 - Specification for the classification of windows,
- AS 2047:2014 - Windows and external glazed doors in buildings,

and for glass requirements,

- NZS 4223.1:2008 - Glazing in buildings - Part 1: Glass selection and glazing,
- NZS 4223.2:2016 - Glazing in buildings - Part 2: Insulating glass units,
- NZS 4223.3:2016 - Glazing in buildings - Part 3: Human impact safety requirements,
- AS 1288:2021 - Glass in buildings - Selection and installation, and
- AS/NZS 4666:2012 - Insulating glass units.

Of all the applicable Building Code clauses, three stand out as being important to our industry and each refers to the BPS, (*this does not preclude the compliance requirements of any other section of the Building Code*),

- B1- Structure,
- E2 - External moisture,
- H1- Energy efficiency.

B1 - Structure

The function of clause B1 is to ensure buildings and building elements withstand the loads they're like to experience in their lifetime, and to safeguard people from injury, loss of amenity, and to protect other property from physical damage, through structural failure.

B1/AS1

Section 3.3.1 of B1/AS1 relates to Glazing in buildings, and references paragraph 4.4.1 of the BPS, which says that glazing, including glass used in windows and doors, shall comply with the nominated standards for selection, insulating glass units, and human impact safety requirements.

B1/VM1

Section 4.2.1 of B1/VM1 relates to Structural specification of windows, and references paragraph 4.4.1.4 of the BPS, which says that windows and doors will have a window rating suitable for the building's wind zone and to conform to one of the nominated standards.

E2 – External Moisture

The function of clause E2 is to ensure buildings are constructed to provide adequate resistance to penetration by, and the accumulation of, moisture from the outside to safeguard people from illness or injury that could result from external moisture entering the building.

E2/AS1

Section 9.1.9 of E2/AS1 relates to Windows and doors, and references paragraph 4.4.1.4 of the BPS, saying that windows and doors will have a window rating suitable for the building's wind zone and to conform to one of the nominated standards.

H1 – Energy Efficiency

The function of clause H1 is to ensure buildings are constructed to achieve an adequate degree of energy efficiency when that energy is used for modifying temperature, modifying humidity, providing ventilation, or doing all or any of those things.

H1/AS1

H1/AS1 refers to housing and other buildings less than 300m² in size. Section 2.1.3 of the clause refers to paragraph 4.5.1 of the BPS, which is the insulation section and does not refer specifically to windows, doors, and/or glazing.

However, H1 is an important part of compliance in relation to glazed windows and doors in today's construction environment, and ensuring they have an appropriate level of thermal performance for the buildings design is essential.

Summary

Window, door, and glazing compliance is split into two separate categories, product performance and suitability for site, and product information must be freely available online.

Product Performance

- Windows and doors must conform to one of the nominated standards for compliance through the BPS. These will have a rating or classification which aligns with the building's wind zone, as determined by NZS 3604.
- Windows and doors tested to standards other than those nominated are an alternative solution and must provide evidence of a comparative rating/classification
- Testing shall confirm, as a minimum, ratings for structural performance, water penetration, and air permeability. The nominated test standards include other tests also.

- Glazing must be suitable for the location in which it is being used, including, but not limited to the use of appropriately selected safety glass, and glazing with a suitable thermal performance for the project design.
- All windows, doors, and glazing must be marked or labelled with its rating, classification, and/or testing as required by the Building Code and nominated standards.
- All markings and labels must be supported by appropriate test reports and/or documentation providing evidence of the purported ratings etc.

Site Suitability

- The ratings and/or classifications of windows and doors must be suitable, across all facets of performance, for the buildings designated wind zone.
- All windows and doors must be labelled with a rating or classification that meets or exceeds the buildings designated wind zone.
- Where labelling is not provided, the product must be supported by appropriate test reports and/or documentation providing evidence of the purported ratings etc.
- Thermal performance for the houselot of windows and doors is provided in one of two ways;
 - a WEERS report, or
 - a Statement of Thermal Performance.

Both are provided by the manufacturer or supplier of the windows and doors and are specific to the project.

Product Information

- Product performance and contribution to Building Code compliance must be made freely available online by all manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, retailers, and distributors based in Aotearoa New Zealand.
- The BPIR must include,
 - information on any limitations on the use of the product, within its intended scope of use,
 - any design requirements that support the use of the product,
 - any installation requirements,
 - any maintenance requirements.