

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

Plumbers need to do 12 points of CPD every year as a condition of renewing your licence. One CPD point is equal to one hour of training, research, attending presentations or workshops.

It's important to stay up to date as standards and legislation change, and new technologies and products become available on the market.

If you have more than one licence (for example you also have a gas-fitter's licence) you only need to do 12 points of CPD to maintain both licences.

You'll find more information on our website at www.justice.tas.gov.au/building/training2016

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

CBOS has produced a [Guide to the Building Act 2016](#) showing you all the steps you need to take for each category of work.

We have also developed Example Design Documentation which is available at www.justice.tas.gov.au/building/regulation/example_design_documentation.

The Plumbing Code of Australia is available at www.abcb.gov.au

The Government's building reforms are about making it fairer, faster, simpler and cheaper to build in Tasmania.

We want to maintain high standards while welcoming investment to encourage jobs growth in our critical building and construction industries.

These nation-leading reforms have been developed with industry and councils, and will deliver faster results and real savings to people who want to build or renovate.

Guy Barnett, Minister for Building and Construction

CONTACT US

If you have any questions about how the changes will affect you, you can:

Visit the website:

www.justice.tas.gov.au/building/building2016

Email cbosinfo@justice.tas.gov.au

Call the government call centre: 1300 654 499

Department of Justice
Consumer, Building and Occupational Services

PO Box 56, Rosny Park TAS 7018

Phone: 1300 654 499

Fax: 03 6173 0206

Email: cbosinfo@justice.tas.gov.au

Visit: www.justice.tas.gov.au

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PLUMBERS

Changes to the Building Act



Tasmania has a new *Building Act 2016* which introduces a risk-based approach to plumbing approvals.

WHAT ARE THE CHANGES?

If you're a licensed plumber, there is a greater range of **low-risk work** or **medium-risk work** that you can undertake without having to apply for a plumbing permit.

There's no longer such a thing as "exempt" work. The level of risk will determine what sort of approval is needed.

Low-risk work must be performed by a licensed plumber but does not need a plumbing permit or notification to the Permit Authority (Plumbing).

Work might include general repairs and maintenance or even renovating a bathroom, replacing "like for like".

There are some very minor tasks that an owner can perform, such as changing tap washers. Some specialised work, such as pumping out a septic tank, can be performed by a "competent person", such as a specialised maintenance person.

Medium-risk work, or "notifiable work" such as putting in a new bathroom with new connections, must be designed by a qualified designer and performed by a licensed plumber.

For some of this work you'll need to provide a Notice of Work to the Permit Authority (Plumbing) and be issued with a Certificate of Likely Compliance before you start work.

When you finish, you must notify the Permit Authority and provide a Standard of Work Certificate. The work may be inspected, and then you can apply for a Certificate of Completion.

High-risk work requires a plumbing permit from the Permit Authority (Plumbing). Examples include on-site wastewater systems, backflow prevention devices, and work on commercial or high rise buildings.

WHAT IS A STANDARD OF WORK CERTIFICATE?

When you've completed a job, you will provide the owner and the Permit Authority with a Standard of Work certificate which confirms you've performed the work in accordance with the Certificate of Likely Compliance and the Plumbing Code of Australia.

You should also supply "as constructed" drawings if the work you have done differs from the design and represents significant new plumbing work.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TASMANIAN PLUMBING CODE?

We're no longer using a Tasmanian version of the national standard. You should always refer to the Plumbing Code of Australia.

WHAT HAPPENED TO SPECIAL PLUMBING PERMITS?

All plumbing work that previously required a "special" plumbing permit is now categorised as high risk. It requires a full plumbing permit and inspection regime, as well as an appropriate maintenance schedule for the owner to follow.

ARE THERE ANY OTHER CHANGES?

As part of the move to manage all licensing in a consistent way, you'll soon be able to complete most of your licence application online which will save you time. You'll still need to visit Service Tasmania with your proof of identity and to have your photo taken.

But if you're renewing your licence and your photo is less than five years old, you'll be able to complete the whole process from the comfort of your home or office computer.