



CUSTOMER GUIDE TO WET AREA SHOWERS



Your guide to submitting a hassle-free application for a Wet Area Shower.

Including information about:

- shower floor types;
- wet area requirements; and
- content and quality of documentation required.

For further information please contact:

Westland District Council

Building Department

36 Weld Street

Private Bag 704

Hokitika

Phone: 03 756 9010

Fax: 037 56 9045

E-mail: Council@westlanddc.govt.nz

Wet area showers: the basic information

Building alterations or new dwellings involving "no-step" tiled floor wet area showers are becoming increasingly common.

These showers must be correctly detailed and constructed to ensure that there are no problems encountered in the future.

Some of the areas that are looked at closely by Council staff are as follows:

- Flooring structure – concrete or timber. New concrete and timber floors can be shaped to fall to drains, good falls in the floor are essential to prevent ponding and possible water problems.
- Timber floors require careful detailing. Using treated timber H3.1 minimum (H4 is recommended) for framing timbers, H4 plywood or fibre cement sheeting under tiles. Framing sizes should be larger than typical floors require in order to reduce deflections and the risk of cracking in tiles.
- A wet area membrane must be applied over all of the area that may be exposed to splashing or water flow. The type and extent of membrane must be shown on Building consent documents. As new products are introduced to the market regularly you should include full installation details with your application. Don't be surprised if the Council asks for details of testing of these products to prove that they will comply with the New Zealand Building Code. A good list of products tested in New Zealand can be obtained from the BRANZ website (www.branz.org.nz).

These types of showers can cause real problems in the future if they are not properly detailed and constructed.

Please remember to get a building consent for the work before you start. An inspection of waterproof membrane will be required before the floor/wall covering is installed

Some key requirements to be aware of:

- Completed Building consent application Form
- All information identified on the cover sheet
- A current copy of the Certificate of Title or current Sale and Purchase Agreement for the property.
- Copies of drawings as specified in the 'General Information' for applicants.
- Site plan, showing buildings, ground and floor levels and dimensions.
- Outline floor plans (for all floors)
- Project Information Memorandum (if already issued)
- Drainage plans
- Cross sections
- Timber Treatment
- Framing details
- Construction details
- Internal waterproofing details
- Plumbing details
- Specifications

Useful websites

Certified Builders Association of NZ Inc (CBANZ)
www.certified.co.nz

Registered Master Builders Federation Inc (RMBF)
www.masterbuilder.org.nz

New Zealand Institute of Architects (NZIA)
www.nzia.co.nz

Architectural Designers NZ Inc (ADNZ)
www.adnz.org.nz

Association of Consulting Engineers (ACENZ)
www.acenz.org.nz

BRANZ Ltd
www.branz.co.nz

NZ Institute of Quantity Surveyors Inc (NZIQS)
www.nziqs.co.nz

NZ Institute of Surveyors (NZIS)
www.surveyors.org.nz

Department of Building and Housing (DBH)
www.dbh.govt.nz
Downloads of Building Act and Building Code information

Institution of Professional Engineers (IPENZ)
www.ipenz.org.nz

NZ Institute of Building Surveyors Inc (NZIBS)
www.buildingsurveyors.co.nz

Consumers' Institute of New Zealand
www.consumerbuild.org.nz

