



PLUMBING NOTE 18

Hot water delivery temperature

The Plumbing Code of Australia (PCA), Australian and New Zealand Standards 3500 series and the *Water and Sewerage Act 2001* sets out the requirements for the design, construction and installation of hot water services including temperature control requirements.

What is required?

Clause 1.6 of part 4.2 of the standard states:

1.6 WATER TEMPERATURE

1.6.1 Storage temperature

Hot water shall be stored at a minimum of 60°C so as to inhibit the growth of legionella bacteria.

1.6.2 Sanitary fixtures delivery temperature.

All new hot water installations shall, at the outlet of all sanitary fixtures used primarily for personal hygiene purposes deliver hot water not exceeding—

- (a) 45°C for early childhood centres, primary and secondary schools and nursing homes or similar facilities for young, aged, sick or disabled persons: and
- (b) 50°C in all other buildings.

NOTE: Compliance with these temperature limits is optional for kitchen sinks and laundry tubs.

This means that all plumbing or drainage work in bathroom areas of houses (including major renovations), should have tempered water.

How to limit your water temperature

Limiting water temperature may be achieved by using thermostatic mixing valves, tempering valves or instantaneous heaters with special delivery temperature and flow control valves. The use of controls attached to the spout which shut off when the temperature is exceeded are not permitted as a means of compliance. Temperature control by turning down the temperature on a water storage heater is also unacceptable as it does not comply with Clause 1.9.1.

The manufacturer may have special installation requirements and these should be checked and followed.

Further information

For further information please phone (02) 6207 1923.