

NCC Standard – Living

Housing Design

1. Background

1.1. The NCC 2022 Livable Housing Design Standard will come into effect from October 1st 2023. In section 5.2 of this standard it states that:

- (1) At least one shower must have a hobless and step-free entry.
- (2) A lip not more than 5 mm in height may be provided for water retention purposes.

1.2. According to the master builders as per <https://www.mbqld.com.au/services-and-advice/building-planning-and-development/technical-info/national-construction-code/2022-amendments> houses must have at least one:

Hobless and step-free shower

- This shower does not need to be on the ground (or entry) level. If located on another level the requirements for the internal doors and corridors will extend to that level
- It will be important to ensure that the bathroom falls are carefully managed in light of the additional new requirement of [falls to floor waste](#)
- It will likely require the whole bathroom to be waterproofed as it will be a challenge to achieve an 'enclosed shower'

1.3. Although the standard makes provisions for clear opening widths of doorways the requirement is only applicable to section 3.1 of <https://abcb.gov.au/sites/default/files/resources/2023/livable-housing-design-20230406.pdf>. Which specifies that it's the room containing the shower rather than the shower door itself. Therefore, the opening to the shower does not have to meet the 820mm requirement.

Internal doorways must provide a minimum clear opening width of 820 mm, measured in accordance with [Figure 2.1](#).

Applications

Clause 3.1 only applies to a doorway that connects to, or is in the path of travel to, any of the following:

- (a) *Habitable room* or laundry on the ground or entry level.
- (b) Attached Class 10a garage or carport that forms part of an access path required by [Clause 1.1](#).
- (c) *Sanitary compartment* on the ground or entry level complying with [Parts 4 and 6](#).
- (d) room containing a shower complying with [Parts 5 and 6](#).

Information: Clear opening width

An 820 mm clear opening width, for a single swinging door, can generally be achieved using an 870 mm door leaf.

Information: Split level designs

The requirements of 3.1 do not prevent the use of split levels within the dwelling, including on the ground or entrance level. However, where a split level is used in the path of travel to one or more of the doors listed in the Application, those doors will still need to comply with 3.1.

2. Enclosed Vs Unenclosed Shower Screens

2.1 The Queensland Government has released a code

https://www.epw.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/36065/QDCMP4.5LivableDwellingsGradingFloorWastes.pdf.

2.2 This clarifies what will be acceptable as an enclosed shower screen.

2.3 Each of the following are considered enclosed.

Figure A4(4)(a)

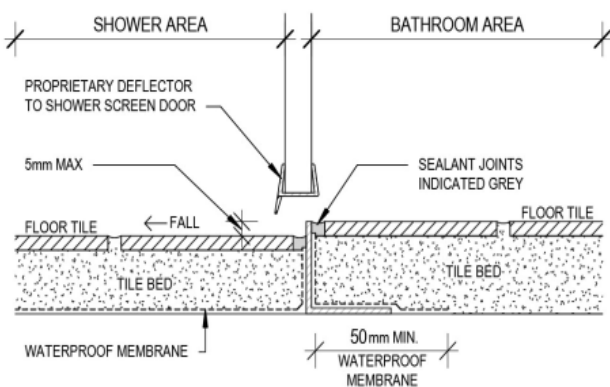
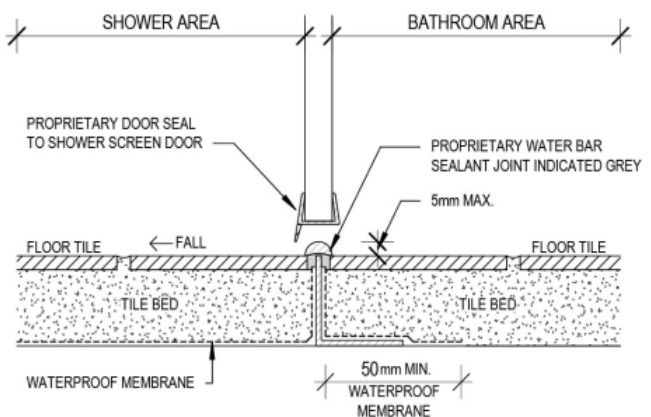


Figure A4(3)



Figures A4(4)(b)

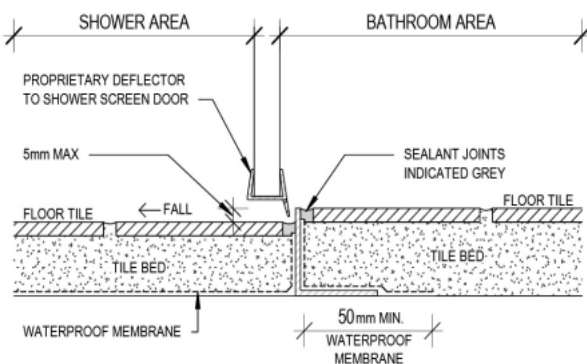
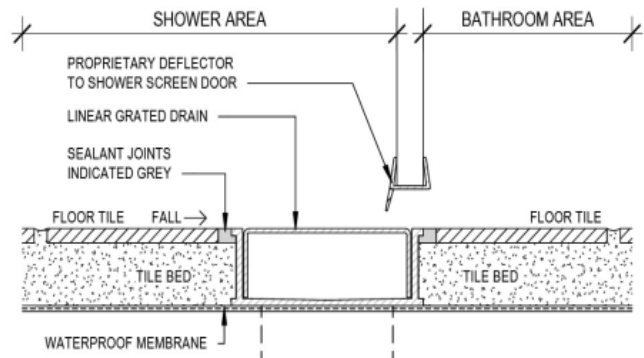
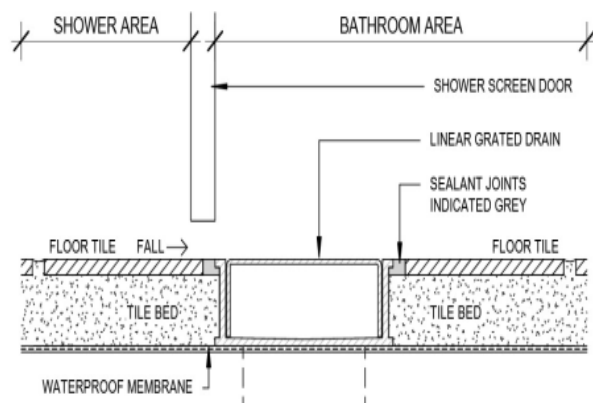
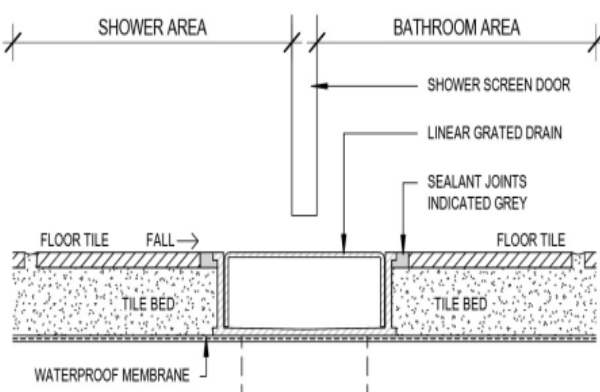


Figure A4(5)(a)

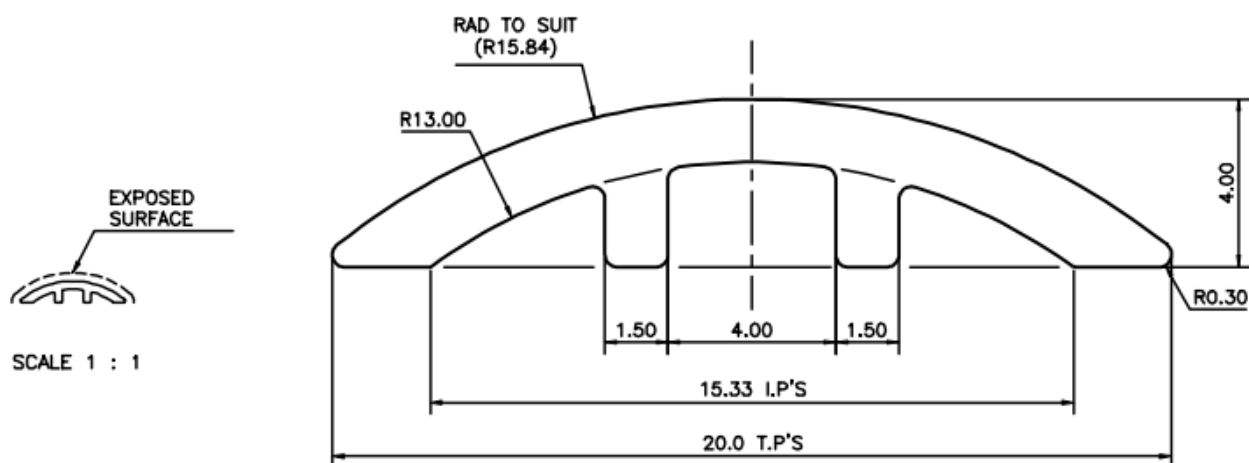


Figures A4(5)(b)



Civic Implementation

Civic has created a proprietary water bar to comply with the enclosed shower screen standard as clarified by the QLD government. The water bar will be 4mm in height allowing for some discrepancy in the floor level and water proofing angle. Civic requires the water proofing angle to be cut flush with the tiles as per the QLD government code, however the water bar will allow the bar to protrude up to 2mm.



Standard Door

The Standard door implementation uses a standard door as currently used. Civic has designed an extended water seal that will close onto the water bar. See below for some photos and a diagram of the setup.

