

AS1428.1-2009 SUPPLEMENT

On 29 November 2010 ACAA presented a seminar in Canberra which dealt with various aspects of the Premises Standards and accessibility in general.

I presented a paper about AS1428.1-2009, in which I anticipated amendments to be made to the original publication (27 November 2009). In fact, Amendment No 1 had been available since 26 November 2010, so the substantive content was already redundant at the time of presentation of the paper, although the Amendment was introduced with so little fanfare that no-one who attended was aware of it at the time.

The paper also contained an account of matters which were absent from AS1428.1-2009 but had appeared in AS1428.1-2001, and which I considered essential in the criteria for accessible buildings.

I have re-written the presentation. The intent of this paper is now to present a supplement to AS1428.1-2009 (incorporating Amendment No 1) which does not break new ground, but which -

1. corrects the differences between the consolidated version of the Standard and the initial Amendment; and
2. reduces contradictions; and
3. rewrites obscure copy; and
4. corrects obvious errors; and
5. completes inadequacies; and
6. inserts remaining matters from AS1428.1-2001 and AS1428.2-1992 which have been left out of AS1428.1-2009, which I consider should have been included.

- in the interests of defining responsible and intelligent criteria for accessible buildings. Nothing in the Supplement reduces or diminishes the requirements of the published *AS1428.1-2009 (incorporating Amendment No.1)*

The paper does not deal with those elements outside the scope of the BCA deemed-to-satisfy provisions.

Its structure is a straightforward statement of clauses and figures which I consider should be deleted, amended or added, appearing in the order in which they should appear in the Standard, together with a short rationale for their inclusion.

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1 May 2011

SUPPLEMENT TO AS1428.1-2009
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New Clause 6.3A

Add

6.3A Crossfall or camber of continuous accessible path of travel

The crossfall or camber of a continuous accessible path of travel measured perpendicular to the direction of travel shall not exceed 1 in 40 except at bitumen surfaces where the crossfall or camber shall not exceed 1 in 33.

This is essential to maintain an effective path of travel between turning space and circulation space at doorways

Clause 7.2

Delete text and insert the following

7.2 Construction at abutment of surfaces

Abutment of surfaces shall have a smooth transition. Design transition shall be 0mm. Construction tolerance shall be

(a) 0+/-3mm vertical; and

(b) 0+/-5mm, provided the higher edge is bevelled or rounded to reduce the likelihood of tripping as shown in Figure 6(a).

Design allowance for the joints of abutting pavers shall be as shown in Figure 6(b).

Design allowance for raked joints in pavers shall be as shown in Figure 7.

To clarify muddled text and provide the correct reference to the Figure

Clause 7.3

Amend text as follows

Insert "construction" between "the" and "tolerances"

For consistency with the Figure title

Clause 8.1

Delete text and insert the following

8.1 Raised tactile and Braille Signs

The BCA contains requirements for Braille and tactile signage in Part D3.6

- (a) *Content*
Facilities shall be identified by the use of raised text, Braille and raised symbols. Raised symbols shall be used if relevant symbols are available or nominated hereunder.
- (b) *Location*
Braille and tactile signage shall be located between 1200 mm and 1600 mm above finished floor level.
- (c) *Style*
 - (i) The minimum text size shall be 20mm.
 - (ii) Text font shall be sans serif.
 - (iii) Text shall be in title case. (e.g. Male Toilet)
NOTE: Helvetica and Arial are sans serif fonts
 - (iv) Braille shall be Unified English Braille (UEB), Grade 1, uncontracted, and shall be in accordance with the technical specifications set out by the Australian Braille Authority (ABA). Braille numerals shall be preceded by a Braille numerical sign.
- (d) *Format*
 - (i) Elements of a sign shall be set out singularly, or in a modular form.
NOTE: Examples of modular form are shown in Figures 9(a), 9(d) 9(e) and 9(f).
 - (ii) Elements of a sign shall be arranged horizontally or vertically and shall include text and Braille, together with symbols. Where words are used, they shall be displayed horizontally.
NOTE: Other symbols may be used in association with the text.
 - (iii) The International Symbol of Access and the International Symbol for Deafness (see Clause 8.2.2) may be used without raised explanatory text such as "accessible", or "hearing loop installed"
- (e) *Signs at sanitary facilities*
 - (i) Sanitary facilities shall be identified with the following:
 - (A) Male or female symbol.
 - (B) Text
 - (C) Braille that shall fully describe the visual information displayed by text and symbols.
NOTES:
 - 1 For example, signage for a male toilet will include the text Male Toilet, Male symbol, and Braille which says "Male Toilet"
 - 2 An example of a sign is given in Figure 9(b).

- (ii) Unisex accessible sanitary facilities shall be identified with the following
 - (A) Male and Female symbols
 - (B) ISA symbol
 - (C) Text
 - (D) Initials LH or RH to indicate a left-hand or right-hand side transfer onto the WC pan.
 - (E) Braille that shall fully describe the visual information displayed by text and symbols.
 NOTES:
 1. An example of signage for a unisex accessible toilet with right hand side (RH) transfer is shown in Figure 9(a).
 2. An example of the use of Braille which describes the visual information is shown in Figure 9(a).
- (iii) A sanitary compartment for people with ambulant disabilities shall be identified in accordance with Figure 9(c).
- (iv) Entry doors to airlocks serving areas containing sanitary facilities shall be identified by the use of text and Braille together with symbols identifying each sanitary facility within.
 NOTES:
 1. One symbol for each facility need only be used.
 2. Where the facilities for male and female are separate, a dividing line should be placed between each symbol.

To clarify muddled and misleading text - for example, not all sanitary facilities are accessible, so not all should be identified with the international symbol of access

Figure 9

Add to the Notes to Figures (a) (b) and (d)

"Male" and "female" symbols shall be at least 50mm high

It is necessary to nominate a minimum height. The tactility of the sign cannot be "read" if it is too small. The dimension is established by application of AS1428.2-1992 Table 1 for the ISA - see clause 8.2.1, below.

Amend the title of Figure (c) to read

(c) Identification signs for ambulant accessible male and female toilets

This is not an example but a mandatory requirement

Add to the Notes to Figure (c)

The symbols shall be at least 50mm high

See notes to Figures 9 (a),(b) and (d) above.

Clause 8.2.1

Add

(e) The minimum size of the symbol when used in raised format shall be 60mm x 60mm

See note to Figure 9, above

Clause 8.2.2

Add

(d) The minimum size of the symbol when used in raised format shall be 60mm x 60mm

See note to Figure 9, above

Figures 15(A) and (B)

Delete the posts from side elevations Figures 15(A)(e) and 15(B)(b)

Including the posts is confusing. If there is an adjacent wall a post is unnecessary

Clause 10.5

Add

(e) top and bottom aligned at 90° to the path of travel; and

(f) sharp transition at top and bottom; and

(g) sharp transition at tapered or splayed edges,

For consistency with ramps and walkways

Clause 10.6

Add

The top and bottom of step ramps shall be aligned at 90° to the path of travel and shall have a sharp transition.

Where the edges have a 45° splay the transition shall be sharp.

For consistency with kerb ramps and step ramps

Figure 22(B)

Amend the upper figure as follows

Relocate "Height 450 min" to indicate the height of the wall beside the ramp, measured from the level of the base of the ramp and delete the kerb around the landing. Add note "Protect landing users by extending the landing or providing railing, kerb and/or kerb rail."

For consistency with the text - see clause 10.6.1(i)

Figure 23(a)

Add to the Notes

- 6 Edge of ramps shall have a sharp transition at the splay

To ensure that the width of the path of travel is not compromised by curving the transition.

Figure 23(b)

Add to the Notes

- 5 Top and bottom of kerb ramps shall be aligned at 90° to path of travel.

For consistency with the Notes to Figure 23(a)

- 6 Edge of ramps shall have a sharp transition at the splay

To ensure that the width of the path of travel is not compromised by curving the transition.

Clause 10.8.1(b)

Delete the text and insert the following

- (b) Where there is a change of direction not exceeding 90°, the landing shall be not be less than 1500mm x 1500mm. The internal corner may be truncated as shown in Figure 25(B). The truncation shall not reduce the clear width of the accessways.

To correct an obvious error. It is absurd to insist on a truncation of any size once the width of the accessway exceeds 1500mm

Figures 26(C) and (D)

Delete the posts from side elevations Figures 26(C)(e) and 26(D)(b)

Including the posts is confusing. If there is an adjacent wall a post is unnecessary

New clause 13.2A

Add

13.2A Reveal depth of doorways

The door reveal depth measured from the wall face to the door face must not exceed 300mm over the full extent of the door circulation space.

This is included as a mandatory requirement in AS1428.1-2001 and remains essential for effective door circulation space regardless of the width of the door opening

New subclause 13.5.2(g)

Add

- (g) Closers at doors other than fire doors and smoke doors shall have adjustable delayed action or hold-open function.

This is derived from an informative note in AS1428.1-2001. It allows movement through a doorway with a closer by a person who needs both hands to mobilise.

New clause 13.5.5

Add

13.5.5 Glazed door viewing panels

Viewing panels shall comply with the following:

- (a) The lower edge of the glazing shall not be more than 1000mm above the plane of the finished floor
- (b) The upper edge of the glazing shall not be less than 1600mm above the plane of the finished floor
- (c) The edge of the glazing shall be not more than 200mm from the latch edge of the door
- (d) The glazing shall be at least 150mm wide

This is derived from a recommendation in AS1428.1-2001 and is considered essential for safety.

New subclause 15.2.3(f)

Add

- (f) remain in the upright position when fully raised.

Included in the original Amendment, overlooked in the consolidated version.

Figure 40(a)

Delete vertical dimensions indicating range for zone of backrest

Add note after "Zone for backrest"

See Figure 39

The dimensions do not meet those shown on the referenced Figure.

New subclause 15.2.9(e)

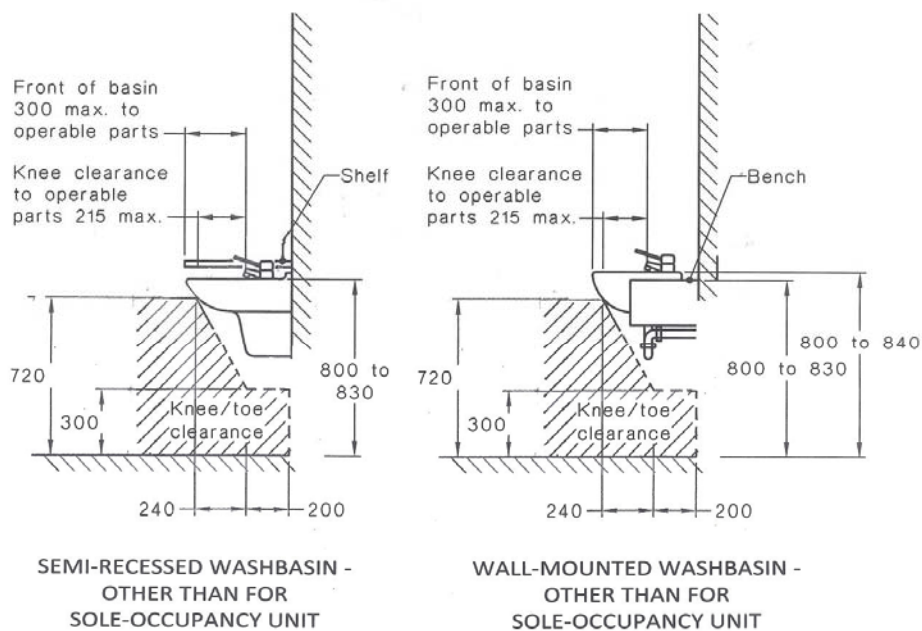
Add

(e) Inward opening or sliding doors shall be capable of either being opened outwards or removed from the outside.

This is included as a mandatory requirement in AS1428.1-2001 and remains essential for safety regardless of the internal size of the cubicle.

Figures 44(A), 44(B) and 45

Delete Elevation B in all three figures and insert the following:

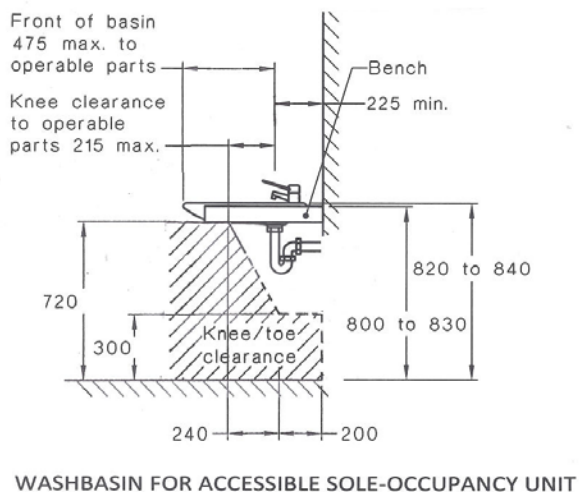


Amendment No 1 deleted an essential dimension, namely the relationship between the top of the knee/toe clearance and the operable parts. Without that, there is nothing to establish a minimum basin front-to-back dimension.

A basin of, say, 200mm overall depth meets the Standard but is not accessible.

The opportunity is also taken to separate the wall alignment from the toe space.

The consolidated version neglected to include the Amendment No 1 definition of "operable parts" at Figure 45 and left out "water source" as an operable part altogether



RELATIONSHIP OF KNEE/TOE CLEARANCE TO FRONT OF BASIN AND OPERABLE PARTS

Note 1: "Operable parts" means the water source and the centre-line of the tap, or where a lever handle is provided, the end point of the lever measured throughout its arc of movement, or where a sensor is provided where the sensor is reliably activated.

Note 2: The knee/toe clearance is the minimum clear space required. Its location is related to the operable parts and the front of the basin, not the wall at the back of the basin.

Clause 15.4

Delete the title and insert the following

15.4 Fixtures and fittings within an accessible sanitary facility

For precision

Clause 15.4.1

Delete the clause including its Note and insert the following:

15.4.1 Mirrors

Where provided, a mirror shall extend from a height of not more than 900mm to a height of not less than 1850mm above the plane of the finished floor. A second mirror, where provided, shall extend from a height of not more than 780mm to a height of not less than 1850mm above the plane of the finished floor. No mirror shall be less than 350mm wide. All dimensions apply to the reflective surface of the mirror. The reflective surface shall be vertical.

In an accessible sole occupancy unit, a mirror, where provided, shall be centred over the washbasin. In other accessible sanitary facilities, a mirror, where provided, shall be located above or adjacent to the washbasin.

For clarity, that the dimensions regarding height also refer to the reflective surface; and to disallow angled or tilted mirrors.

Clause 15.4.2 (a)

Delete the subclause and insert

As a vanity top at a height of 800mm to 830mm and a minimum width of 120mm and a depth no greater than that of the bowl.

Nominating a maximum depth of 400mm is irrational. The plan at Figure 45 shows a deeper vanity shelf.

Clause 15.4.2 (b)(i)

Within any circulation space at a height of 900mm to 1000mm with a width of 120mm to 150mm and a length of 300mm to 450mm; and

There seems to be evidence to restrict the length to 400mm, which eliminates at least some proprietary products.

Clause 15.5.1

Add

(d) Taps shall be located on the side of the shower head support grabrail nearer the folding seat.

To support the illustration.

Figure 48

Amend the figure by deleting "660 min" and adding "700 min" and adding identification as follows to the dimensioning line

Edge of seat and end of grabrail

Application of the dimensions in Figures 47 and 48 shows that a minimum of 700mm is required for a shower recess 1160mm wide with a seat 400mm wide.

Clause 15.5.4

Add

Where the dimensions of the required grabrails for WC and shower recess overlap (see Figure 42(b) and Figure 48) the grabrail shall be continuous. See Figure 50 for example.

For clarity, to resolve the dilemma. It should be understood that this does not allow the shower curtain to hang against the wall, because the grabrail obstructs it.

Figure 51(A)(c)

Amend Figure 51(A)(c) by deleting the dimension "300 max"

This corrects an obvious error

Clause 16.4

Delete clause 16.4 and insert the following

Sanitary compartments for people with ambulant disabilities shall be identified by symbols and words, as specified in Clause 8 and illustrated in Figure 9(c)

For consistency and clarity.

Figure A1(b)(ii)

Amend the figure by deleting "75 max" and inserting "65 max"

Included in Amendment 1 but overlooked in the consolidated version

END