

What's changed?

The 2022 National Construction Code (NCC) will require all new Australian houses and apartments to meet a minimum energy efficiency rating of 7 stars under the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS).

When does this begin?

Starting May 1, 2024



Can Zeal Homes achieve the 7-star energy rating with my new home...?

...Yes, here are just some of the many solutions!

- ★ A small to medium-sized slab on ground.
Single storey form is optimal as opposed to e.g. a suspended single-storey form or a medium to large, two storey form.
- ★ Overhangs in two storey designs should be avoided .
Balconies are ok, but overhanging internal spaces often rate poorly.
- ★ Avoid living areas on the upper level of a two-storey design as they rate poorly due to a lack of thermal mass.
- ★ Avoid voids in two storey designs as they rate poorly for energy efficiency.
- ★ Utilise low-e glazing at the very least with low U_w and $SHGC_w$ values.
As opposed to standard glazing which traditionally has high U_w and $SHGC_w$ values (double glazing is ideal).
- ★ Opt for lighter coloured external walls/roofs over darker colours.



- ★ Avoid 'overuse' of glazing.

While it's very trendy at the moment to have a beautiful, light-filled design, it can often lead to a poor energy efficiency rating in our warm climate.

- ★ Utilise louvres & casement windows as opposed to fixed windows.

These facilitate more cross-ventilation.

- ★ Incorporate covered outdoor areas adjacent to large, glazed doors.

- ★ Incorporate large eaves/screening devices to northern, eastern and western facing walls/glazing.

- ★ Minimise western-facing glazing.

- ★ Minimise western-facing habitable rooms/spaces.

- ★ Incorporate internal ceiling fans in all habitable rooms/spaces, including outdoor rooms.

- ★ Utilise heating/cooling appliances and pool pumps, (if relevant), with higher star Energy Efficiency ratings.

- ★ Avoid gas hot water systems.



- ★ Install solar panels at a minimum.

- ★ Add a 60mm Anticon blanket to roof as standard.

This improves the wall & ceiling RW values and are more energy efficient than standard insulation batts.

NB: While the above suggestions should help any project achieve compliance with the new requirements, this is in no way, an exhaustive list.