

## Overview:

The Building Code of Australia requires the construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas to follow the specific requirements of *Australian Standard: 3959*. These building requirements for house designs and constructions vary according to the bush fire attack level (BAL) that a development falls into.

## Australian Standards for a Low (12.5 BAL Rating) bushfire construction:

- Weephole in the brickwork require a weephole protector that has a stainless steel mesh inserted.
- All windows required 5mm toughened glazing in lieu of 4mm standard glazing.
- Fly & Security screens are required to have an aluminium wire rather than a poly wire.
- Front door needs to have a fire proof frame and also requires a screen over the door and any side light glazing.
- Garage door needs fire resistant weather strips and jambs need to be constructed from hardwood.
- Roof is required to be fully sarked and roof vents to have fire resistant weather strips.
- Any timbers below 400mm above ground to be non-combustible or constructed from an approved timber species.

## Australian Standards for a Medium (19 BAL Rating) bushfire construction:

- All inclusions required by the low rating bushfire construction requirements above and the following additions:
  - Fascia & Gutters need to be fixed at 450mm centres in lieu of 600mm centres which require extra noggings to be installed between the truss tails.
  - Any gaps greater than 2mm to be sealed with fire rated intumescent sealant. This pertains to walls/roofs, etc. Ember-guard protection to all penetrations.

## Australian Standards for a High (29 BAL Rating) bushfire construction:

- All inclusions required by the low and medium rating bushfire construction requirements above and the following additions:
  - All windows require 6mm toughened glazing in lieu of 4mm standard glazing.
  - Roof penetration requires a stainless steel mesh inserted to prevent embers from entering.
  - Eave sheeting needs to be 6mm in lieu of our standard 4.5mm.
  - Anticon Blanket is to be installed.

