




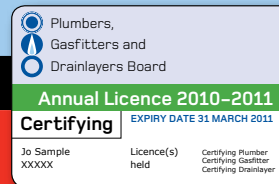
-  Plumbers,
-  Gasfitters and
-  Drainlayers Board



Consumer Guide

New legislation means changes in the way plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers operate. Changes for consumers will mean:

- You should ask to see the tradesperson's current licence card – this is confirmation that the plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying work will be completed by someone qualified or competently supervised.
- You can have greater confidence in the competence of the tradespeople you engage, if they are licensed.
- It's important to know that work undertaken by unlicensed people (including some D.I.Y jobs) may invalidate insurance cover.



Who can I trust?

Ask to see the tradesperson's licence card! Everyone authorised to undertake plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying work must carry their licence card and are required to produce it if requested to do so.

If the tradesperson is required to be supervised, the name and registration number of their supervisor will be printed on the back of their licence. This supervisor is ultimately responsible for the work done by the person they are supervising. You should contact the supervisor if you have any concerns about any work you have had done.

How do I get further information?

A public register of all certifying and licensed tradespeople is available at www.pgdb.co.nz. You can use the search function to find details of specific individuals, or to find the names and details of certifying or licensed tradespeople in your area.

If you believe work you have had done is sub-standard, has been done by someone who does not hold a current licence or you would like to make a complaint, you can contact the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board on 04 494 2970 or by emailing the Registrar at registrar@pgdb.co.nz.

Getting it Right

For more information go to
www.pgdb.co.nz

What is plumbing?



Plumbing is any work involved in installing or repairing any pipe, plumbing fixture (e.g. a shower) or appliance (e.g. a dishwasher). This includes any trap, waste or soil pipe, ventilation pipe, or overflow pipe, and any pipe that supplies or is intended to supply water.

All plumbing work must be carried out by a licensed plumber. However, people who are not licensed plumbers can undertake some basic tasks such as repairing or replacing taps and ball valves, and changing tap washers.

All plumbing must comply with the Building Code and where a building consent is required the work must be checked by the local territorial authority (your local council). A code compliance certificate cannot be issued until the work has been signed off by the building inspector.



What is drainlaying?



Drainlaying is any work involving installing, altering or repairing a drain. This includes connecting or disconnecting a drain to a sewage tank, waste water treatment plant or gully trap.

All drainlaying work must be carried out by a licensed drainlayer. However, people who are not licensed drainlayers can clear blocked drains but only if this does not involve opening up the drain or altering or repairing it in any way.

All drainlaying work must comply with the Building Code and where a building consent is required, the work must be checked by the local territorial authority (your local council). A code compliance certificate cannot be issued until the work has been signed off by the building inspector.



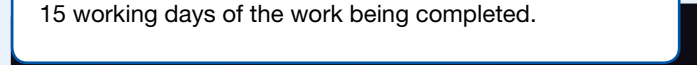
What is gasfitting?



Gasfitting is any work involved in installing, altering or repairing gas appliances and ensuring their safe operation.

All gasfitting work must be carried out by a licensed gasfitter. However, people who are not licensed gasfitters may undertake basic tasks such as maintaining portable gas appliances which have a gas bottle attached (generally 9 kg) such as barbecues, cabinet heaters and patio heaters, although the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board strongly recommends a licensed gasfitter is used.

You must obtain a 'gas certificate' or 'certificate of compliance' after the installation of most gas appliances. If you are unsure whether you need a certificate, please contact the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board. You should be supplied a copy of the certificate within 15 working days of the work being completed.



Who can do plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying work?



Plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying work must be done by a licensed or suitably supervised person.

Authorised people who can undertake your plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying work are either 'certifying', 'licensed', hold a 'limited certificate' or have an 'exemption'.

If you are not a licensed plumber, gasfitter or drainlayer you can only undertake limited work as outlined in this brochure.



Certifying plumber, gasfitter or drainlayer

This is the highest qualification available. These people are responsible for ensuring both their own work, and the work of anyone they supervise is done competently.

Licensed plumber, gasfitter or drainlayer

These people are qualified and licensed but must be supervised by a certifying person who is ultimately responsible for ensuring the work is done competently.

Limited certificate trainee

These are people who are working towards becoming qualified. They can do the work but a certifying person must ensure it is done competently.

Exempt worker

These people don't have any qualification but can do plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying work provided they are supervised by a certifying person, who must ensure that the work is done competently.