



## Australian Standards for Poly Water Tanks and Installations

When looking to buy a rainwater tank you've probably heard "**Australian Standard (AS)**" this, "**Australian/New Zealand Standard (AS/NZ)**" that with an "**International Standard (ISO)**" mentioned also – but what do they all mean?

Standards compliance provides you with some assurance that the product or service you are buying is safe, reliable and of good quality.



You might think that Australian Standards for manufacturing are legally enforced laws, but they are in fact recommendations developed by an organisation called [Standards Australia](http://Standards Australia). Compliance with Australian Standards is normally voluntary unless the product is regulated by Government.

So if are after a [quality water tank](#), it is important to verify the manufacturer does comply with any stated Australian Standard. The easiest way is to ensure they have been independently certified by an approved certification body (the manufacturer should be able to produce a certificate of conformance).

To help you better understand the Australian Standards for poly water tank and installations we have put together a list of the standards you should know regarding the poly tank products themselves and then the plumbing.

### Poly Tank Manufacturing Standards

These standards apply to the quality of your water tank:

- **AS 2070 Plastics materials for food contact use** – this standard applies to the manufacture of the plastics materials (resins, granules and powders) and colorants for food contact use and describes procedures to be followed during the various stages of processing by manufacturers of plastics items for food contact. Adherence to this standard means your tank will be food-grade so the water stored within is safe from plastic toxins.
- **AS/NZS 4020 Testing of products for use in contact with drinking water** – this standard specifies requirements for the suitability of products for use in contact with drinking water and defines test methods for evaluating their effect on the quality of the water. This generally applies to items such as pipes and fittings that will come into contact with your drinking water.
- **AS/NZS 4766 Polyethylene storage tanks for water and chemicals** – this standard specifies requirements for the design and manufacture of polyethylene storage tanks that are rotationally moulded in one-piece seamless construction, for non-buried, vertical installation, and capable of

containing water, liquids for food and beverage manufacture and chemical solutions at atmospheric pressure. All quality polyethylene tanks should be certified to this standard.

- **AS/NZS ISO 9001 Quality management systems** – this standard specifies requirements for quality management systems applicable to an organisation regardless of size, type, industry, product or service. It focuses on the quality management system’s effectiveness in meeting customer requirements, and demonstrates that processes are in place to continually meet those requirements.

## Plumbing Standards

These standards apply to the quality of your tank installation and adherence is usually required from your local council when building a new home or applying for any available [water tank rebates](#):

- **AS/NZS 3500 Plumbing and drainage** – this standard specifies the performance requirements for materials and products, and design and installation of roof drainage systems, surface drainage systems and subsoil drainage systems. It is the basis for the national [Plumbing Code of Australia](#). Adherence means your plumbing has all been carried out by a license plumber who certifies compliance with the Code.
- **AS 3688 Water supply – Metallic fittings and end connectors** – this standard specifies requirements for metallic body pipe fittings and connectors for use with copper tubes and stainless steel pipes and tubes and adaptor fittings for connection to other pipe materials in water supply and gas systems where the normal working temperature does not exceed 95°C, and where the maximum operating pressure does not exceed 1.4MPa.
- **AS/NZS 4130 Polyethylene (PE) pipes for pressure applications** – this standard specifies requirements for polyethylene pipes for the delivery of fluids under pressure.

Now you know what many of the numbers in Australian Standards represent in the poly water tank industry, you are probably left wondering how they actually apply to poly rainwater tanks and installations. Find out in our article: [How Australian Standards Apply to Poly Water Tanks](#)

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