




-  Plumbers,
-  Gasfitters and
-  Drainlayers Board



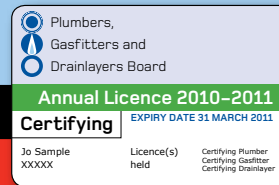
Consumers Guide

Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying

New legislation means changes in the way plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers operate.

Positive changes for consumers will mean:

- You can have greater confidence in the competence of the tradespeople you engage
- You should ask to see the tradesperson's current identification card – this is confirmation that the plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying work will be completed by someone qualified or competently supervised.
- It's important to know that work undertaken by unlicensed people may invalidate insurance cover.



Who can I trust?

Ask to see the tradesperson's card! Every tradesperson who is authorised to undertake plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying work must carry an identification card so their status can be checked immediately.

Tradespeople are required to produce their card 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 their identification card. 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 contact details of specific individuals, or to find the names and contact details of certifying or licensed tradespeople in your area.

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

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

What is plumbing?



Plumbing is any work involved in fixing or unfixing any pipe, plumbing fixture or appliance including; any trap, waste or soil pipe, ventilation pipe, or overflow pipe, and any pipe that supplies or is intended to supply water.

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

People who are not licensed plumbers (such as homeowners) are able to install appliances such as dishwashers and washing machines as long as the installation does not involve work on water or waste pipes. They are also able to repair or replace taps, ball valves, tap washers, or plugs.

What is drainlaying?



Drainlaying is any work involving installing, altering or repairing a drain, including fixing or unfixing a drain to a sewage tank or gully trap.

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 building control authority building inspector (from 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 including the fixing or unfixing of any gas pipes, ventilation or flue pipes, and commissioning gas appliances and ensuring their safe operation (including the testing, setting, checking, and adjusting of safety devices, combustion conditions, and controls associated with the gas installation, and ensuring there is adequate ventilation).

You must obtain a 'gas certificate' after a gas appliance is installed. This confirms that the appliance has been installed correctly and meets all safety requirements.

Gasfitting includes work on appliances fitted to ships, boats, caravans, trains and any other vehicles, and also includes work on gas appliances fixed within buildings that are supplied by gas bottles of any size.

People who are not gasfitters are able to work on portable gas appliances which have the gas bottle attached such as barbecues, cabinet heaters and patio heaters, although the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board strongly recommends a gasfitter is used.

Who can do plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying work?



All 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 'licensed', hold a 'limited certificate' or have an 'exemption'.

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.

