

AS 3000 - Changes to Wiring Rules



The new edition of the Australian/New Zealand Standard for Wiring Rules (AS/NZS 3000:2007) was released in November 2007.

Produced by the joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee, the revised edition expands on issues relating to electrical installations that improves safeguards and maintenance, and addresses the needs and expectations of stakeholders through the two-part publication.

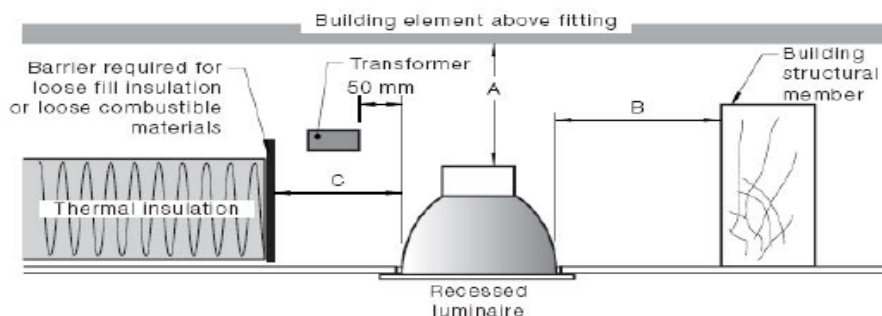
One of the more important changes that will affect the building industry is the introduction of more stringent requirements in relation to the installation of down lights regarding clearances from building elements and thermal insulation.

The previous provisions required that luminaires and their associated ancillary gear shall be installed not to cause undue temperature rise, deterioration or ignition of the materials on which they are mounted. Clearances from thermal insulation were required to be maintained for low voltage lamps or luminaires and extra low voltage dichroic lamps or luminaires and associated transformers of 25mm and 50mm respectively, the latter being the common low voltage halogen down light and transformer.

The revised Standard will require greater clearances from both thermal insulation and building elements that may restrict the use of this type of light for certain applications if other means of protection are not provided such as fire resistant covers.

The following draft diagram sets out proposed changes to default clearances if other provisions for the protection of building elements and thermal insulation cannot be met.

The diagram and table from the draft Wiring Rules:



Dimension	Incandescent lamp	Halogen lamp
A - Clearance above luminaire	50 mm	200mm
B - Side clearance to structural member	100 mm	200 mm
C - Clearance to thermal insulation	50 mm	200 mm
D - Clearance to supply transformer	50 mm	

FIGURE 4.7 DEFAULT MINIMUM CLEARANCES FOR RECESSED LUMINAIRES

Extracted from AS 3000 – Wiring Rules (draft)

For further information HIA members can contact HIA's Building Services staff on 1300 650 620 or hia_technical@hia.com.au.

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The above is intended to provide general information in summary form. The contents do not constitute specific advice and should not be relied upon as such. Formal specific advice should be sought by members with respect to particular matters before taking action. ABN 99 004 631 752

information sheet