



水務署
Water Supplies Department

香港灣仔告士打道七號入境事務大樓
Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Hong Kong.

電子郵件
e-mail wsdinfo@wsd.gov.hk

電話
Telephone 2824 5000

圖文傳真
Facsimile 2824 0578

檔號
Reference (1) in WSD 3318/50 Pt. 11 T/J (2)

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Distribution: To all Licensed Plumbers and Authorized Persons

Dear Sirs,

WSD Circular Letter No. 1/2026

Amendments to “Technical Requirements for Plumbing Works in Buildings”

This Circular Letter promulgates amendments to “Technical Requirements for Plumbing Works in Buildings”(TR).

Amendments

2. Water Supplies Department has amended Tables 1.3.1 and 4.2.3.7.1, and Sections 3.1.8, 3.2.1.3, 3.2.2.4(d), 4.2.3.3.1, 4.2.3.5.2, 4.2.7.2.17 and “LIST OF SYMBOL” of TR as per **Appendix**.

Effective Date

3. The above amendments shall take immediate effect.

Enquiry

4. Should you have any enquiry, please contact our Engineer/Technical Support(3) at telephone no. 2829 4726.

Yours faithfully,

(Original Signed)

(YIP Ka-chun, Gary)
for Water Authority

Encl.

(with Chinese translation)



c.c.

Housing Department (Attn: SM/QM)

Buildings Department

Architectural Services Department

Fire Services Department

The Hong Kong Housing Society

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers

The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

The Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering – Hong Kong Branch

Hong Kong Plumbing and Sanitary Ware Trade Association Ltd.

Hong Kong Licensed Plumbing Professionals Association Ltd.

Hong Kong Water Works Professionals Association Ltd.

The Hong Kong Institution of Plumbing and Drainage Ltd.

Plumbing Technology Student Association

The Association of Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors of Hong Kong Limited

Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Construction Association, Ltd.

Hong Kong Registered Contractors Association Company Ltd.

The Hong Kong Federation of Electrical & Mechanical Contractors Ltd.

Contractor's Authorised Signatory Association Ltd.

Registered Minor Works Contractor Signatory Association Ltd.

Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association Ltd.

Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education

Hong Kong Institute of Construction, Construction Industry Council

Hong Kong Licensed Plumbers Union Limited

Hong Kong Metropolitan University Li Ka Shing School of Professional and Continuing Education

The Association of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (Hong Kong) Ltd.

Pipeman Engineering (International) Limited

Hong Kong Institute of Water and Sanitation Safety

Hong Kong Plumbing General Union

WSD 3318/15/81

Appendix

Table 1.3.1 Functions of commonly used waterworks fittings

Fitting	Function
Ball Valve	<p>a valve that provides a straight-through passage for the flow of fluid and in which the passage can be closed by a ball type device. It is used where the water pressure is low and on distribution pipework from a storage cistern. It may substitute the function of gate valve in plastic pipework (e.g. PVC U) of nominal size below and include 50mm.</p>

#3.1.8 For ~~single jet meter and turbine meter installed in direct supply system~~ water meter of nominal size of 50mm or above installed in direct supply system, a strainer shall be installed upstream of the meter.

#3.2.1.3 If a section of copper or stainless steel pipe is used either before or after a water meter position, the section of copper or stainless steel pipe between the water meter position and the first pipe clamp shall be jointed by screwed or flanged joints or soldering/brazing joint ~~or press joint~~.

#3.2.2.4(d): ~~the door(s) to the meter room/box/cabinet shall not be equipped with any self-closing device~~. If self-closing device is equipped on the door to the meter room/box/cabinet, a free egress lock shall be installed on the door to facilitate the personnel undertaking meter reading or maintenance to unlock the door from the inside. The lock of the door to the meter room shall be located at a level between 0.9m and 1.1m above the finished floor level. The door to the meter room shall be equipped with handle to facilitate door opening. The door handle shall be either in the form of long cylindrical or spherical shape to facilitate handling. Covered or flat sectioned handles shall not be used;

#4.2.3.3.1 The fresh water supply shall be protected by installing appropriate backflow prevention device ~~to prevent cross connection and/or risk of backflow contamination~~. A list of common backflow prevention devices is shown in Table 4.2.3.7.1 for reference. Requirements on backflow prevention device for some typical installations are listed in Table 4.2.3.7.2. For other installations, the backflow prevention devices shall be provided based on the fluid category applicable to the installations according to BS EN 1717.

[English version was amended to align with Chinese version]

Appendix

#4.2.3.5.2 If backflow prevention devices such as backflow preventer ~~or-with~~ reduced pressure zone ~~valve device~~, is proposed to be used, they shall only be used with a maintenance program. If such program is unavailable, the backflow prevention devices shall not be fitted and break tank shall be provided.

#4.2.3.7.1

Table 4.2.3.7.1 Properties of common backflow prevention devices

Backflow prevention device	Corresponding Fluid category as in BS EN 1717:2000	Protection against back-pressure	Protection against back-syphonage
Break tank	1-5	Yes	Yes
Backflow preventer + with Reduced Pressure Zone (RPZ) Device	1-4	Yes	Yes
Check valve/ Non-return valve	1-2	Yes	Yes
Double check valve (in- series) *	1-2	Yes	Yes
Anti-vacuum valve	1-2	No	Yes

* ~~For flushing meters~~ For meters used in systematic flushing in village houses as stipulated in Section 5.2 of 'Guide to Application for Water Supply'.

#4.2.7.2.17 Temperature and pressure relief valve, air vent and vacuum breaker shall be provided to hot water storage tanks and calorifiers.

[Chinese version was amended to align with English version]

LIST OF SYMBOLS (1 OF 2)

	ANGLE VALVE
	LOOSE JUMPER TYPE STOPCOCK
	GATE VALVE
	STORAGE CISTERN
	FLOAT SWITCH
	BALL FLOAT VALVE / FLOAT OPERATED VALVE
	NON-RETURN VALVE / CHECK VALVE
	DOUBLE NON-RETURN VALVE / CHECK VALVE DOUBLE CHECK VALVE
	WATER METER
	DRAW OFF POINTS - COLD WATER
	DRAW OFF POINTS - HOT WATER
	DRAW OFF POINT - COLD & HOT WATER
	DRAW OFF POINT - COLD & HOT WATER (SHOWER TYPE)
	WASHOUT PIPE
	O.F. OVERFLOW PIPE
	PUMP SET
	CALORIFIER
	BOILER
	STRAINER