

Summary of NZS 3604 Revision

Section	Title	Key updates
(i) Introduction	Referenced documents, Foreword, Outcome Statement,	Updated reference list and revised foreword and outcome statement
1	Scope and interpretation	Scope and application have been revised and the flowchart simplified. New terms have been defined and others clarified. The scope has been broadened, and limitations have been moved to relevant sections. SD has replaced SED to clarify that not all design requires an engineer e.g. durability assessment. Use of SD has been clarified. References to individual professions has been removed to fit with the Building Act.
2	General	This section covers timber and wood-based components, fastening and fabrication, reinforcing steel, concrete and concrete masonry. The section has been revised to include corrections
3	Site requirements	Revisions include how to determine moderately expansive and moderately liquifiable ground, clarifies how to test soil bearing capacity and provides a foundation selection flowchart that matches foundation options with ground conditions (see Figure 3.4)
4	Durability	Exposure zones have been updated to reflect BRANZ research, the building product specifications (BPS) compliance pathway is introduced for timber and wood-based products.
5	Bracing Design	Updated wind design requirements and covers 11 m high buildings but continues to only apply to buildings where a third storey is only a part storey attic. Bracing for 3 storeys not included in this revision
6	Foundation and subfloor framing	Some subfloor foundation options have been introduced for moderately liquefiable and moderately expansive ground. Introduced foundation options for 3 storey buildings.
7	Floors	Clarification of support requirements for floors, limitations on holes and notches in floor joists, requirements for wood-based sheet flooring updated. Slab-on-grade floors for different ground conditions have been included along with new construction details for one, two and three storey buildings. New slab thickening details and maximum slab dimensions have been clarified.
8	Walls	Tables updated for new wind requirements and introduction of NZS AS 1720.1 for timber structural design, Wall framing included for 3 storey buildings, construction details provided for balustrade walls, adjustments made to maximum framing overhangs and introduction of service cavity and wall junction details to facilitate design for improved thermal performance, clarification of plate connections and stud restraint requirements, provision for isolated internal masonry walls in single storey structures included, timber member size tables updated to reflect commonly available timber sizes and grades
9	Posts	Minor revisions to tables

Section	Title	Key updates
10	Roof Framing	Corrections and clarifications
11	Building Envelope	No change from 2011 standard
12	Interior linings	No change from 2011 standard
13	Ceilings	Clarification of provisions for openings and cut-outs in ceiling diaphragms
14	Requirements for 3kPa floor loads	Details the increased requirements for the design of structural components (framing, subfloor, flooring, and fixings) and the increased earthquake bracing demand
15	1.5 kPa and 2.0 kPa snow loadings	Snow zone table updated in figure 15.1