

Planning and Preparation



Where to go	What you'll find	Planning & Controls	Budgeting	Choosing Land, builder & design
Speed date an expert at Build Expo At the Modern Home Feature	Free 10 min appointments with experts in all areas. Book a time asap	✓	✓	✓
Consumer Affairs Victoria www.consumer.vic.gov.au	Useful checklists under Housing and Accommodation tab, Building & Renovating menu.	✓	✓	
Victorian Building Authority www.vba.vic.gov.au	Useful information on permits, bushfire information, contracts and a range of other subjects.	✓		
Your Local Council website	Information on the local planning permit process, application forms and fees, viewing of planning applications, sustainable design and efficiency	✓		
Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) www.abcb.gov.au	Useful handbooks including Construction of buildings in flood prone/hazard areas, Using on-site renewables and reclaimed energy sources, Energy efficient provisions for Electricians and Plumbers.	✓		✓
Your Local Library	Copies of the National Construction Code (new version each year), books on home design and sustainable/efficient buildings.	✓		✓
EPA – storm water pollution www.epa.vic.gov.au	Have a free guide on Reducing storm water pollution at home http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/~media/Publications/977.pdf	✓		✓
AA Architects www.aaarchitect.com.au	Free PDF downloads on Preparing a building budget, Briefing your architect – find them under the Essential menu		✓	✓
Home Design Directory www.homedesigndirectory.com.au	Have a high level Construction cost calculator available on their home page to help estimate building costs.		✓	
Organised Builders www.organisedbuilders.com.au	Have some free estimation spreadsheet templates, there is one for residential house building.		✓	
Moneysmart www.moneysmart.gov.au	Under their Tools & Resources section are some calculators that can help with general budgeting, borrowing and investing.		✓	
Your Home www.yourhome.gov.au	What to look for in a site, efficient building design, and things to consider before you begin. Online resource, hardcopy book also available.			✓
Liveable Housing Guidelines www.livablehousingaustralia.org	Guidelines for building design and fittings to ensure adequate moveability and future modification for restricted mobility of occupants. Free App.			✓

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Universal Design www.anuhd.org	Similar to Livable Housing, guidelines to designing a home that enables freedom of movement and access despite age and ability.			
Sustainability Victoria www.sustainability.vic.gov.au	Information for households on Smarter Renovations, new tool for helping to determine what to include			
Sustainable House Day www.sustainablehouseday.com	Annual open house day where people open their homes for visitors to show and discuss what they have done, how, why and the benefits. Speak with those who have renovated/built efficient homes and ask questions.			
MBAV www.mbav.com.au	List of registered builders and those trained in building efficient homes (see the Green Living listings).			
HIA www.hia.com.au	List of registered builders and those trained in building 'Green Smart' homes (see Green Smart Professional accredited listings)			
NSW Govt-The Easy Septic Guide www.kmc.nsw.gov.au	Free guide on septic tanks at this link. www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/files/d99266ca-2b12-4ad0-b3a5-a14f0108027f/Easy_Septic_Guide.pdf			