

Te Tōpūtanga o te Whare Korou ki Aotearoa, Passive House Institute NZ (PHINZ) has created this guide to help with terminology when talking about the Passive House Standard. We also encourage Passive House professionals to read "claiming the Passive House standard" guide, downloadable from passivehouse.nz

While PHINZ does not endorse or encourage approaches that do not meet the Passive House Standard, we know that not all projects are Certified Passive Houses and that conversations regarding better performing buildings often seek to make comparisons.

This guide includes additional terms, common in the construction industry, to guide these conversations. The terms themselves and how they are used are not governed by PHINZ. We have included them in this guide to provide context, and to help members, sponsors, clients and journalists on Aotearoa's journey towards the Passive House Standard.

How do I refer to my project?

1. Has the project achieved Passive House Institute (PHI) certification?

T NO

YES



Retrofit

6

Targeting

certification

Congratulations!

Certified

Passive

House

(C)

Targeting

Passive House certification

Make sure to use the correct category and class

A PHI Low Energy Building can't be referred to as a Passive House. The Low Energy Building standard is not intended as a target - it's for projects that narrowly miss out on Passive House and EnerPHit certification.

> **PHI Certified** Low Energy Building

Has the building achieved PHI Low **Energy Building**

certification?

(Classic, Plus or Premium)

Is the project in design or under construction and is targeting PHI certification?

YES K

Are elements (walls, floors, roofs etc) sourced from the High Performance The Passive House Standard is a reliable way of achieving comfortable, healthy, energy-efficient projects. If a project doesn't gain PHI certification, there is a high risk that it won't perform as intended.

details handbook?

YES

Do insulation, airtightness and ventilation perfomance exceed building code minimums?

6.

Code

Code plus building

YES

Don't refer to any project that falls within these three categories using the terms 'passive house', 'certified passive house', 'passive house principles' or similar. Conflating a project with the Passive House standard gives the owner or client grounds to claim damages from the design and construction team, as has happened internationally.

Has the project

been modelled in

Passive House

Planning

Package?

The lowest standard you can legally build

Just above the lowest standard you can legally build

The High Performance Details Handbook is not meant to be used in isolation as a source of construction options. To avoid unintended outcomes in your project, you need a thorough understanding of

building performance, alongside energy modelling and robust software tools.

o

NO

YES

performance

building

₩ NO

minimum building