

# Environmentally Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency Information Sheets



## Information Sheet - Design Assessment Tools

This information sheets provides some background information regarding Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) and Energy Efficient Assessment Tools for dwellings, which can assist with benchmarking and reporting the sustainability achievements of a development.

### BESS (Built Environment Sustainability Scorecard)

BESS is an online sustainable design assessment tool. It is:

- Is a free tool for planning applicants to use
- Assesses all types of buildings of all different sizes, including mixed use developments
- Is an easy and straight forward program to use
- Can be used as a bench marking tool against other developments
- Assists with reducing the running costs of new buildings
- Provides a range of liveability and useability benefits for building owners and users



Source: [bess.net.au](https://bess.net.au)

The information required to complete a BESS Assessment depends on the nature of the proposal; simpler applications require more basic information, whereas larger, more complex applications require more detailed information.

For more information regarding BESS, please see <https://bess.net.au/>

### STORM (Stormwater Treatment Objective – Relative Measure)

STORM is a free tool which assesses storm water management qualities. The purpose of STORM is to assess whether best practice water quality objectives can be achieved as part of a development. STORM is managed by Melbourne Water.

For more information regarding STORM, please see <https://storm.melbournewater.com.au/>

### NatHERS (Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme)

NatHERS is a star rating system (out of 10) which determines the energy efficiency (heating and cooling) of a dwelling, based on the design of the dwelling. It assists with meeting the requirements of the National Construction Code. The purpose of NatHERS is to assist with designing homes which are more comfortable for inhabitants and to reduce the operating costs of the dwelling. Read more about NatHERS and its benefits at <http://nathers.gov.au/>.



Source: [nathers.gov.au](http://nathers.gov.au)