



BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION  
AUTHORITY

## **Q&A**

### **Standardisation of Apertures for Residential Buildings in Malta**

#### **What is the scope of the technical document?**

The scope of the technical document is to provide technical information and guidance for the standardisation of sizes for doors and windows, for eventual incorporation in the design policy guidance within the development planning policy regime.

#### **Does the introduction of Standardisation of Apertures of Residential Buildings in Malta will affect existing buildings?**

No. The technical document shall apply when a new aperture is to be constructed, either when a new building is being designed or when an existing building is being altered and apertures are to be added or be rebuilt.

#### **How many different standard sizes would be available?**

Once the minimum dimensions are kept, there is no limit to the different sizes that can be utilised, as long as the increments in width and height are in line with the standard.

#### **What are the benefits of introducing such standards?**

Standardising aperture sizes will mean that apertures may be interchangeable and more accessible, whilst repairs and replacements would be easier. To encourage the reduction of waste, consumers may also re-use older standard aperture fittings. The measures of standardisation also bring several benefits to producers and designers. In fact, standardisation would mean that producers can focus and stick-on standard openings, and thus reduce their overall cost of production. Furthermore, these measures would make life easier for designers who would work on standard sizes from the initial design of buildings. From a waste perspective, standardisation opens an opportunity for raw materials to produce in modules, meaning that less waste of raw material would be generated.

**Do these standards supersede any other regulations and obligations published by other governmental entities?**

No. The technical document clearly states that it does not in any way waive or preclude a designer from any obligations, legal or otherwise as established by other government entities.

END.