



NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY  
WAKA KOTAHI



# Bailey bridge service

# What is a Bailey bridge?

A Bailey bridge is a modular form bridge system that is versatile and relatively quick to erect and dismantle. It provides single-lane vehicle access for temporary or semi-permanent use.

The basic component of a Bailey bridge is a three-metre long truss panel. This can be configured to provide variable span lengths and cater for a range of loads.

NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) Bailey bridges are available for commercial hire to all interested users, including private companies and individuals. The NZTA owns more than 3000 tonnes of Bailey bridge components.

A 30-metre single span Bailey bridge could be delivered, erected and in use within one week of acceptance of the terms detailed in the standard hire agreement.



## WHAT CAN A BAILEY BRIDGE BE USED FOR?

Over the past 50 years, Bailey bridges have been used to:

- quickly replace collapsed bridges from 3 metres to 200 metres long
- temporarily bridge drop-outs to re-open roads washed out in storms
- provide cost-effective temporary structures for road construction projects
- provide minor stream crossings and in other non-emergency situations (eg filming locations).



## WHO CAN USE THE NZTA'S BAILEY BRIDGE SERVICE?

The NZTA offers the Bailey bridge service to:

- the NZTA's regional offices
- contractors
- consultants
- roading authorities
- private businesses.

## WHAT DOES THE BAILEY BRIDGE SERVICE PROVIDE?

The NZTA's Bailey bridge service includes design, transportation of components, on-site construction, inspection, maintenance and dismantling of the bridge's superstructure.

## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

All hirers, including the NZTA, are required to pay for:

- transport
- construction
- dismantling
- monthly hire
- inspection.

The hire charge is based on the weight of components used, plus transport and construction services. A tonne is about the equivalent of a one-metre length of bridge. A cost estimate can be provided on request.

Hirers operate under a standard hire agreement with the NZTA.

The NZTA operates this service as a non-profit-making scheme. The hire charge is used to fund the storage and maintenance of the components.

Local authorities and the NZTA may apply for financial assistance if they need Bailey bridges on public roads in emergency situations.



For more information, contact the Bailey bridge project manager:

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For out of hours contact details, please go to our website:  
[www.nzta.govt.nz/network/maintaining/management/bailey-bridge.html](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/network/maintaining/management/bailey-bridge.html)