

CALL TO ACTION

Design interiors that nurture people and protect the planet

Why Interior Design?

Interior Designers are key to creating sustainable spaces through material and furnishing selection and designing flexible spaces that can adapt over time. Interior Designers shape a building's environmental impact, occupant health, and longevity.

Actions

- Choose low emission finish materials based on performance and durability, where human health is considered as an equal performance criterion to durability.
- Prioritize use of materials with material ingredient disclosures like Health Product Declarations (HPDs) or Declare.
- Evaluate the embodied carbon / life cycle of finishes and furnishing materials by selecting those with lower environmental impact or high recycled content.
- Coordinate with Client / Owner interior building cleaning services to avoid application of harmful disinfectants or bleach to surfaces and furniture.
- Consider end of life viability when making initial selections:
 - Ask manufacturers about their take-back programs.
 - Specify all carpet to be diverted from landfills.

Stand Out Strategies



- Avoid specifying petroleum-based products such as vinyl, plastics, or PVC.
- Avoid high VOC content coatings applied on-site such as scotch guard, stain resistance, flame retardants. If necessary, ask for factory application.
- Use water-based adhesives.
- Avoid material products listed on the Living Building Challenge (LBC) Red List.