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LEED rating system

Green building leadership is LEED.

[Start a project \(https://lo.usgbc.org/\)](https://lo.usgbc.org/)



Better buildings equal better lives

We believe green buildings are the foundation of something bigger: helping people, and the communities and cities they reside in—safely, healthily and sustainably thrive. The heart of our green building community’s efforts must go well beyond construction and efficiency, and the materials that make up our buildings. We must dig deeper and focus on what matters most within those buildings: human beings.

Every single human being on the planet should have safe and healthy places to live, work, learn and play. Leading long and healthy lives is not a privilege—it’s a right for everyone. Shouldn’t the places where we spend 90% of our time support our health and wellbeing? Improved health and productivity benefits are playing a larger role than ever before in driving companies to invest in green building.

"For over a decade, Colgate-Palmolive has utilized LEED to design and construct our manufacturing sites all over the world. Today our business and employees are realizing the benefits of our LEED efforts through healthy work environments and efficient responsible operations." – Vance Merolla, Worldwide Director of Sustainability, Colgate-Palmolive Company

A LEED for every project

LEED is for all building types and all building phases including new construction, interior fit outs, operations and maintenance and core and shell. Unsure of which rating system to use? Check out our interactive Discover LEED tool ([/discoverleed/](#)) to get started; then, use the rating system selection guidance ([/leed-tools/rating-system-selection-guidance](#)) to make a final decision.

BD+C

Building Design and Construction

For new construction or major renovations. Includes:

- New Construction
- Core & Shell

BD+C also includes applications for: Schools, Retail, Hospitality, Data Centers, Warehouses & Distribution Centers and Healthcare

Learn more about building design and construction ([/leed/rating-systems/new-buildings](#)).

LEED v4 BD+C rating system PDF ([/resources/leed-v4-building-design-and-construction-current-version](#)) / LEED v4 BD+C scorecard ([/resources/leed-v4-building-design-and-construction-checklist](#)) / Reference guide overview ([/guide/bdc](#))

ID+C

Interior Design and Construction



For complete interior fit-out projects. Includes:

- **Commercial Interiors**

ID+C also includes applications for Retail and Hospitality.

Learn more about interior design and construction (</leed/rating-systems/new-interiors>).

[LEED v4 ID+C rating system PDF \(/resources/leed-v4-interior-design-and-construction-current-version\)](/resources/leed-v4-interior-design-and-construction-current-version) / [LEED v4 ID+C scorecard \(/resources/leed-v4-interior-design-and-construction-checklist\)](/resources/leed-v4-interior-design-and-construction-checklist) / [Reference guide overview \(/guide/idc\)](/guide/idc)

O+M

Building Operations and Maintenance

For existing buildings that are undergoing improvement work or little to no construction. Includes:

- **Existing Buildings**

O+M also includes applications for Schools, Retail, Hospitality, Data Centers, and Warehouses & Distribution Centers.

Learn more about operations and maintenance (</leed/rating-systems/existing-buildings>).

[LEED v4 O+M rating system PDF \(/resources/leed-v4-building-operations-and-maintenance-current-version\)](/resources/leed-v4-building-operations-and-maintenance-current-version) / [LEED v4 O+M scorecard \(/resources/checklist-leed-v4-building-operations-and-maintenance\)](/resources/checklist-leed-v4-building-operations-and-maintenance) / [Reference guide overview \(/guide/om\)](/guide/om)



ND

Neighborhood Development

For new land development projects or redevelopment projects containing residential uses, nonresidential uses, or a mix. Projects can be at any stage of the development process, from conceptual planning to construction. Includes:

- Plan and Built Project

Learn more about neighborhood development (</leed/rating-systems/neighborhood-development>).

LEED v4 ND rating system PDF (</resources/leed-v4-neighborhood-development-current-version>) / LEED v4 ND scorecard (</resources/leed-v4-neighborhood-development-checklist>) / Reference guide overview (</guide/nd>)



Homes

For single family homes, low-rise multi-family (one to three stories) or mid-rise multi-family (four to six stories). Includes:

- Homes
- Multifamily Lowrise
- Multifamily Midrise

Homes and residential buildings that are greater than six stories use LEED BD+C (</leed#BDC>). Learn more about LEED homes (</leed/rating-systems/residential>).

LEED v4 Homes rating system PDF (</resources/leed-v4-homes-and-midrise-ballot-version>) / LEED v4 Homes scorecard (</resources/leed-v4-homes-design-and-construction-checklist>) / Reference guide overview (</guide/homes>)

Cities and Communities

For entire cities and sub-sections of a city. LEED for Cities projects can measure and manage their city's water consumption, energy use, waste, transportation and human experience. Learn more about LEED for Cities (</leed/rating-systems/leed-for-cities>).

LEED for Cities Pilot scorecard (</cityperformance>) / Guide to LEED Certification: Cities and Communities Pilot (</tools/leed-certification/cities-communities>)

LEED Recertification

LEED recertification is an important step in protecting your building asset. Recertification helps you maintain and improve your building, while keeping your sustainability investment in place. Applies to all occupied and in-use projects that have previously achieved certification under LEED – including BD+C and ID+C, regardless of their initial rating system or version. Learn more about recertification (</leed/v41#recertification>).



Recertification guide (</resources/recertification-guidance-leed-buildings>)

LEED Zero

Available for all LEED projects certified under the BD+C or O+M rating systems or registered to pursue LEED O+M certification. LEED Zero is for projects with net zero goals in carbon and/or resources. Learn more about LEED Zero (</programs/leed-zero>).

How does LEED work

Projects pursuing LEED certification earn points for various green building strategies across several categories based on the number of points achieved, a project earns one of four LEED rating levels: Certified, Silver, Gold or Platinum. Learn more (<http://leed.usgbc.org/>).



Platinum

80+ points earned



Gold

60-79 points earned





Silver

50-59 points earned



Certified

40-49 points earned

Register a LEED project (<https://lo.usgbc.org/>)

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Partner Sites

Arc (<http://arcskoru.com/>) Center for Green Schools (<http://www.centerforgreenschools.org/>) GBCI (<http://www.gbci.org/>)

GRESB (<https://www.gresb.com/>) Green Apple (<http://www.mygreenapple.org/>) Green Home Guide (<http://greenhomeguide.com/>)

Greenbuild (<http://greenbuild.usgbc.org/>) Living Standard (<https://livingstandard.org/>) Parksmart (<http://parksmart.gbci.org/>)

PEER (<http://peer.usgbc.org/>) RELi (<https://www.gbci.org/reli>) SITES (<http://www.sustainablesites.org/>)

TRUE Zero Waste (<https://true.gbci.org>)

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