

SMART SHOPPER'S HomeRenovationGUIDE



from
THE GreenGUIDE

National Geographic, 432 W. 45th Street, New York, NY 10036
www.thegreenguide.com

WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR IN BUILDING PRODUCTS

*(due to respiratory hazards or
carcinogenic and neurotoxic effects):*

VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (VOCs)

Paint: formaldehyde, benzene, kerosene, ammonia, toluene, xylene

Flooring: formaldehyde, d-limonene, phthalates (vinyl floor tiles & windows), toluene diisocyanate, other solvents (adhesives)

Carpeting: formaldehyde, toluene, and xylene (adhesives)

Plywood/Pressed Wood: formaldehyde, toluene, and xylene (adhesives)

HEAVY METALS

Paint: cadmium, chromium, lead, (found in paint in pre-1978 households)

Decking, Play Sets: arsenic (from chromated copper arsenate)

Pipes: lead (found in some older buildings)

Plywood/Pressed Wood: formaldehyde, toluene, and xylene (adhesives)

PARTICULATES

Insulation: fiberglass, recycled newsprint (dust)

Subscribe today! Get a free issue:
www.thegreenguide.com/subscribe

SMART SHOPPER'S HomeRenovationGUIDE



from
THE GreenGUIDE

National Geographic, 432 W. 45th Street, New York, NY 10036
www.thegreenguide.com

COUNTERS

Richlite: paper and hemp fiber countertops (richlite.com; 888-383-5533)

FLOORING

Eco-Friendly Flooring: 100% recycled aluminum, brass or glass tiles for floors, walls and ceilings (ecofriendlyflooring.com; 866-250-3273)

Eco Timber: FSC-certified and reclaimed wood flooring (ecotimber.com; 415-258-8454)

Dodge-Regupol: ECOsurfaces recycled rubber flooring line (regupol.com; 866-883-7780)

Duro Design: bamboo, cork, oak and eucalyptus flooring (duro-design.com; 888-528-8518)

Shaw Industries: PVC-free, recycled fiber modular carpet (shawfloors.com; 800-441-7429)

Sisalcarpet.com: natural fiber rugs and carpets (sisalcarpet.com; 877-757-4725)

Smith & Fong: bamboo & palmwood flooring (plyboo.com; durapalm.com)

FLOOR FINISHES

AFM Safecoat: low-VOC seals & finishes (afmsafecoat.com; 800-281-9785)

BioShield: low-VOC floor finish #4, oil sealer #5 (bioshieldpaint.com)

Tried & True: low-VOC wood finishes (leevalley.com)

FRAMING

Environ Biocomposites Manufacturing: recycled newsprint, sunflower hull and wheat boards (environbiocomposites.com, 800-324-8187)

Meditate II: fiberboard from recycled wood (sierrapine.com; 800-676-3339)

Plexwood: formaldehyde-free, low-VOC composite boards (plexwood.com)

INSULATION

BioBased Spray Foam Insulation: soy-based polyurethane sprayable insulation (biobased.net; 800-803-5189)

UltraTouch Natural Cotton Fiber Insulation: recycled denim and other fabric (bondedlogic.com; 480-812-9114)

PIPES

Fusiotherm: PVC-free, polypropylene plastic pipes (aquatherm-usa.com)

PAINT AND WALLCOVERINGS

American Clay: natural-clay plaster (americanclay.com; 866-404-1634)

Auro Paint: mineral- and plant oil-based paints (aurousa.com; 888-302-9352)

Innovations: cotton, hemp, paper and cellulose wall coverings (innovationsusa.com; 800-227-8053)

Maharam: natural fibers, recycled content interior textiles (maharam.com; 800-645-3943)

Mio: recycled paper wallpaper (mioculture.com; 215-925-9359)

Sina Pearson: recycled fabrics wallpaper (sinapearson.com; 212-366-1146)