

LEED Certification MR Credit Checklist

For use by WDMA members, the steps below describe how credits are earned by a step-by-step process. Each step includes a table describing the credit-by-credit explanation of the Materials & Resources (MR) category, what each credit is, and how many points are earned. This applies to BD+C (Building Design & Construction) projects:

Typical credits withing the Materials and Resources credit are:

1. **Building Life-Cycle Impact Reduction:** This rewards reuse of existing buildings or life-cycle assessment (LCA) showing reduced impacts.
2. **Building Product Disclosure and Optimization (BPDO):** This encourages use of products with:
 - Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)
 - Responsible sourcing (e.g., FSC-certified wood)
 - Material ingredient transparency (HPDs, Cradle to Cradle)
3. **Sourcing of Raw Material:** This credits for recycled content, bio-based materials, reused materials, and certified wood.
4. **Material Ingredients:** This rewards products with disclosed and optimized chemical ingredients.
5. **Construction and Demolition Waste Management:** This promotes waste reduction through diversion, recycling, or reuse.

Ahead of documenting materials that would qualify for points, LEED outlines the prerequisite for the storage and collection of materials. This prerequisite requires projects to provide dedicated, easily accessible areas for the collection and storage of recyclable materials generated by building occupants. The intent is to support ongoing waste reduction by making recycling an integral part of building operations. Typical recyclable streams include paper, cardboard, glass, plastics, and metals, with additional materials accommodated where local recycling infrastructure exists.

MR Credit 1: Building Life-Cycle Impact Reduction

(up to 5 points)

MR Credit 1 considers the adaptive reuse of buildings, the use of LCA's, and optimizing the structure and building envelope materials.

This credit encourages project teams to reduce the environmental impacts associated with building materials and construction by considering the entire life cycle of the building.

Projects can achieve this credit through the reuse of existing buildings or structural elements, by conducting a whole-building life-cycle assessment that demonstrates reductions in key environmental impact categories, or by incorporating salvaged or reused materials. The overarching goal is to minimize embodied environmental impacts rather than focusing solely on individual material attributes.

Typical building product manufacturer documentation required:

- Provide EPDs or LCA data for doors or windows
- Help specifiers identify products that can be documented for MR credit compliance
- Educate design teams on product participation in EPD programs (e.g., industry average wood product EPDs)

Path	Environmental Impact	Points Earned
Historic Building Reuse	Maintain the historic character of the building.	5 points
Renovation of Abandoned or Blighted Building	Saves buildings otherwise slated for demolition.	5 points
Building & Material Reuse	Reuse existing structure, enclosure, and interior nonstructural elements.	25% reuse → 2 pts 50% reuse → 3 pts 75% reuse → 4 pts
Whole-Building Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA)	Demonstrates reductions in categories.	10% reduction → 3 pts 20% reduction → 4 pts 30% reduction → 5 pts

MR Credit 2: Building Product Disclosure & Optimization – Environmental Product Declarations

(up to 2 points)

MR Credit 2 considers the qualification of building products.

This credit promotes transparency in the environmental impacts of building materials by rewarding the use of products with verified Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs). EPDs provide standardized, third-party-verified data on the life-cycle environmental impacts of products, enabling project teams to make more informed comparisons and selections. The credit also incentivizes manufacturers to improve the environmental performance of their products over time.

Typical building product manufacturer documentation required:

- Provide manufacturer sourcing reports
- Provide proof of:
 - Recycled content
 - Certified wood (e.g., FSC)
 - Bio-based content
 - Suppliers' responsible sourcing systems

Path	Environmental Impact	Points Earned
Option 1	Use ≥20 permanently installed products from ≥5 manufacturers with EPDs.	1 point
Option 2	Products must demonstrate lower environmental impacts vs industry average (counted by cost).	1 point

MR Credit 3: Sourcing of Raw Materials

(up to 2 points)

MR Credit 3 considers the support of responsible extraction and reuse of materials.

The sourcing of raw materials credit focuses on reducing the environmental and social harms associated with resource extraction and material production. It rewards the use of products that contain recycled content, are sourced from responsibly managed forests, use bio-based materials, or are manufactured by companies that demonstrate responsible extraction practices or extended producer responsibility. The intent is to shift demand toward materials with lower extraction impacts and more ethical supply chains.

Typical building product manufacturer documentation required:

- HPDs (Health Product Declarations)
- Declare Labels
- Cradle to Cradle Certifications

Path	Environmental Impact	Points Earned
Option 1: Disclosure	≥20 products from ≥5 manufacturers with sourcing reports.	1 point
Option 2: Optimization	≥25% (by cost) of products meet responsible sourcing criteria, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recycled content• FSC-certified wood• Bio-based materials• Reused or salvaged materials	1 point

MR Credit 4: Material Ingredients

(up to 2 points)

MR Credit 4 encourages transparency and safer material chemistry.

This credit seeks to improve transparency around the chemical composition of building materials and encourage the use of products with safer ingredients. Projects earn credit by specifying products with publicly disclosed material ingredient information, such as Health Product Declarations or Cradle to Cradle certifications, and by selecting products that demonstrate optimization of material health. The intent is to reduce potential human and environmental health risks associated with toxic or hazardous substances in building materials.

Typical building product manufacturer documentation required:

- Waste management plan
- Waste diversion reports from contractor
- Material type and destination documentation

Path	Environmental Impact	Points Earned
Option 1: Disclosure	≥20 products with ingredient disclosures	1 point
Option 2: Optimization	≥25% (by cost) of products avoid harmful substances and meet optimization criteria.	1 point

MR Credit 5: Construction and Demolition Waste Management (up to 2 points)

MR Credit 5 encourages the reduction of waste sent to landfills.

The construction and demolition waste management credit addresses the large volume of waste generated during construction by encouraging waste reduction, reuse, and recycling. Projects can earn points by developing and implementing a waste management plan that diverts materials from landfills or by reducing the total amount of waste generated overall. This credit emphasizes thoughtful planning, tracking, and accountability in construction practices to minimize environmental impacts associated with disposal.

Path	Environmental Impact	Points Earned
Option 1: Diversion	Divert $\geq 50\%$ of waste	1 point
	Divert $\geq 75\%$	2 points
Option 2: Waste Reduction	≤ 2.5 lb/sf	1 point
	≤ 1.25 lb/sf	2 points