

2025 Guidelines

Kingfisher's approach to lowering
the environmental impact of what
customers buy for their homes



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Bioregional



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Introduction



01 Introduction

As Europe's leading home improvement retail group, Kingfisher is uniquely positioned to help households across our markets create greener, healthier homes.

- > **We believe** in empowering our customers to make a positive difference in their homes. Everyone deserves a home that's not only comfortable and efficient but also uses fewer resources and costs less to run.
- > **We're on a mission** to help our customers reduce their environmental impact - without compromising on quality or affordability.

For decades, we've been embedding sustainability into the heart of our product design and development. From using lower-impact materials and processes to creating solutions that help people live more sustainably at home, we're committed to making a real difference.

Already, more than 50% of our sales come from products and services that meet our **Sustainable Home Product** criteria - and we're working to grow that number every year.

Our ambition is to get to 60% by the end of 2025.

The **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines are designed to identify the products across Kingfisher's retail banners that deliver the greatest environmental benefits to our customers.

Our research shows that customers are increasingly interested in sustainability. They want to use fewer resources, protect the environment, and ensure their homes are healthy and safe places to live.

Kingfisher offers a diverse product portfolio - from lighting, paint, and flooring to screws, plants, kitchen cabinets, toilets, doors, building materials, tools, and insulation. We also provide services such as tool rental and repair.





Products that meet the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria represent a key step in Kingfisher's commitment to reducing the environmental impact of home improvement.



These guidelines apply to the majority of our product and service range, with the exception of products that are inherently unsustainable and cannot reasonably meet our criteria.

There are over 300 criteria, organised into nine attributes.

Given the diversity of Kingfisher's product portfolio, multiple approaches are used to develop the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria. These include third-party certifications and references to established labelling protocols such as **EU Energy Labelling**, **L'Indice de Réparabilité**, and the **VOC 'globe'**.

Where applicable, the guidelines incorporate quantitative assessments - for example, calculating the service value of a fan - to support the criteria.

All criteria are reviewed annually by **Bioregional**, a charity and social enterprise. No criteria can be included without their agreement, ensuring independent oversight and credibility.

While the programme is primarily internally focused, the **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines are published externally and made available to all stakeholders.

In addition to outlining positive sustainability attributes, the guidelines also define a **Watch List** - a set of features that disqualify products from being considered sustainable. Examples include the use of peat in compost, coal for heating, and energy-intensive materials. As more sustainable and affordable alternatives become available, products on the **Watch List** may be phased out.

Products that meet the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria represent a key step in Kingfisher's commitment to reducing the environmental impact of home improvement.

Each year, Kingfisher reports the percentage of group sales derived from products that meet these criteria. This reporting is independently verified by **Bioregional**.



The guidelines define the core attributes that distinguish **Sustainable Home Products**, highlighting both their environmental benefits and their role in helping customers create greener, healthier homes.

02 Summary of changes in 2025



02 Summary of changes in 2025

The **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines are reviewed annually to ensure that all criteria and attributes remain relevant, robust, and aligned with best practices. This process considers changes in legal requirements, industry standards, and emerging sustainability trends, as the programme aims to set performance levels above legal minimums and market norms.

New criteria are introduced when research identifies opportunities for improvement, while existing criteria are regularly assessed and may be updated or removed based on their continued relevance and effectiveness.



Points of View (POV) approach

In 2025, Kingfisher introduced a point-of-view (POV) approach to align Kingfisher's internal strategy with the nine core attributes of the **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines. This framework is designed to align with four key sustainability focus areas identified by Kingfisher:

- > Addressing carbon emissions.
- > Moving towards a circular economy.
- > Supporting biodiversity.
- > Energy and water saving products.

Sustainability focus areas are represented by dedicated icons and can be seen alongside associated product criteria to communicate our key sustainability priorities.

More detailed information about each point of view and how they are applied can be found in [this section](#).

Changes to attribute names

The **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines are built around nine core attributes, which serve as the organising principles for over 300 individual criteria.

In this edition, two of the attributes have been updated to reflect evolving sustainability priorities:

> Made Using Lower Impact Manufacture

- This replaces the previous attribute **Made Using Lower Carbon Manufacture**. The updated name acknowledges that environmental impacts from manufacturing extend beyond carbon emissions. It allows the inclusion of criteria that address broader issues such as water stewardship, pollution, and other environmental factors.

> Supporting Biodiversity at Home

- This replaces **Supporting Nature at Home** and provides a more precise focus on biodiversity, helping to guide the development of criteria that support ecosystems and wildlife in domestic settings.

New criteria

Details of the revised criteria can be found in their main entry in this document.

1. Alternative materials

- i. Attribute: **Made from Alternative Materials.**
- ii. Six materials have been added as criteria:
 - > **Bagasse** (sugar cane waste) as an alternative to conventional plastic.
 - > **Hazel** as a non-forest timber alternative to wood or plastic.
 - > **Pine cones** as an alternative to plastic decorations.
 - > **Seaweed** as an alternative to conventional fertilisers.
 - > **Cellulose** as an alternative to plastic in cleaning sponges.
 - > **Loofah** as an alternative to plastic in cleaning scrubbers.

2. Addressing microplastic pollution from homes

- i. Attribute: **Supporting Biodiversity at Home.**
- ii. New criteria have been introduced to address the release of microplastics from household activities - specifically from textile washing. These criteria aim to reduce the environmental impact of microplastic pollution at home.
 - > Products that can filter microplastics from water leaving washing machines, reducing the levels entering wastewater:
 - Fittings for washing machines.

3. Dope dyeing

- i. Attribute: **Made using Lower Impact Manufacture.**
- ii. Dope dyeing is a textile dyeing technique that uses significantly less water and fewer chemicals than conventional dyeing methods. By adding colour pigments directly into the synthetic fibre during the spinning process, it eliminates the need for water-intensive dye baths and reduces overall environmental impact.

4. Plumbing fittings with certification demonstrating that they have been tested and meet the standard EN1254-1 or BS EN1254-1

- i. Attribute: **Extending Product Lifecycles.**
- ii. BS EN 1254-1:2021 is a recognized technical standard but not a mandatory legal requirement on its own. It sets standards for quality and longevity.

5. Product longevity: Sheds

- i. Attribute: **Extending Product Lifecycles.**
- ii. New criteria have been developed for sheds based on research commissioned by Kingfisher examining environmental and use factors that influence longevity. These criteria specify quality tests.

6. Recycled textiles

- i. Attribute: **Made from Recycled Materials.**
- ii. Although there are criteria for recycled cotton and recycled plastic derived fabrics, there was no criteria for recycled textiles where the feedstock is waste clothing and/or other fabrics that may be a mixture of fabric types.
- iii. This criteria may be applied to insulation made from waste jeans and underlay made from waste mixed clothing.

7. Stainless Steel

- i. Attribute: **Made using Lower Impact Manufacture.**
- ii. Criteria requiring lower levels of embodied carbon for steel products have been part of the **Sustainable Home Product Guidelines** for two years.
- iii. Stainless steel generally has a higher carbon footprint than mild steel, primarily due to its energy-intensive production processes and the inclusion of alloying elements such as chromium, nickel, and molybdenum.
- iv. To address this, a new criterion has been developed specifically for stainless steel, setting a threshold of 3 kg CO₂e per kg of material. This ensures that only lower-impact stainless steel products can qualify under the guidelines.

8. Alternatives to conventional garden chemicals

- i. Attribute: **Supporting Biodiversity at Home.**
- ii Two new alternatives have been added: acetic acid (vinegar) and pelargonic acid.

Third party certifications

Four new third-party certifications have been added:

- > **NF environment** certification.
 - Attribute: **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials.**
- > EcoCert ecological and recycled textiles (ERTS).
 - Attribute: **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials.**
- > Organic farmers & growers (OF&G organic)
 - Attribute: **Supporting Biodiversity at Home.**
- > Plante Bleue.
 - Attribute: **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials.**

Revised criteria

1. Flood protection for homes and gardens

- i. Attribute: **Protecting Health at Home**.
- ii. This criterion has been moved from the Saving Water at Home attribute to **Protecting Health at Home**. While addressing internal water leaks can reduce water usage - and many surface water flood prevention measures support better water stewardship - the broader impact of flood protection is more closely tied to safeguarding health and wellbeing.
- iii. Protecting homes from external flooding helps prevent property damage, reduces health risks associated with damp and mould, and contributes to safer living environments. This shift ensures the criterion is better aligned with its primary purpose.

2. Recycled brass

- i. Attribute: **Made from Recycled Materials**.
- ii. This criterion was set at a level of 90% recycled brass, based on the weight of the whole product. Because this level effectively excluded products that contained non-brass components, the threshold has been adjusted to 75%.

3. Water filters

- i. Attribute: **Supporting Biodiversity at Home**.
- ii. This criterion has been moved from Saving Water at Home, reflecting the environmental benefit of reducing single-use plastic demand by moving away from bottled water.

4. Mixed materials

- i. Attribute: **Various**.
- ii. These criteria apply to complex products made from a combination of positively defined materials, where no single material accounts for 50% or more of the product's total weight. As a result, the product does not qualify under any single-material criteria.
- iii. For such products, the bill of materials is used to calculate the total percentage of the product's weight made up of positively defined materials. This may include, for example, a combination of recycled plastic and low-carbon aluminium components.
- iv. If the combined weight of these materials equals or exceeds 50% of the product's total weight, the product may qualify under the mixed materials criteria.
- v. In 2024, the threshold was set at 60%. Lowering it to 50% in the current edition ensures consistency across the guidelines, applying the same threshold to both complex and simpler products.

03

Principles of Sustainable Home Products



03 Principles of Sustainable Home Products

Objectives and guiding principles

Sustainable Home Product Programme overview

The **Sustainable Home Product** (SHP) programme supports the delivery of **Kingfisher's Responsible Business Strategy** by improving the sustainability of the products and services offered to customers.

- > The **SHP** programme is not a customer communication tool; rather, it is an internal framework that aligns product development and sourcing with key sustainability goals, including:
 - Decarbonisation.
 - Forest Positive.
 - Circularity.

Scope of assessment

All products sold by Kingfisher's retail banners can be assessed using the **SHP** criteria. This includes:

- > Vendor-branded products.
- > Kingfisher's own and exclusive brands.
- > Services (where they have a sales value), which are assessed using the same evidence-based approach as physical products.

Governance and validation

- > All assessments are evidence-based and validated by **Bioregional**, an independent charity and social enterprise.
- > Results are included in Kingfisher's annual **Responsible Business** reporting, which is externally audited.
- > The **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines are published on Kingfisher's website so that the details are transparent.

Criteria standards

- > **SHP** criteria are designed to exceed regulatory requirements and market norms.
- > All criteria are:
 - Reviewed annually by **Bioregional**.
 - Evidence-based.
 - Subject to **Bioregional** approval before any changes are made.
- > Products or services that do not meet regulatory requirements or Kingfisher policies (e.g. on packaging or ethical sourcing) cannot qualify under SHP criteria.

Watch List criteria

- > While most SHP criteria describe positive sustainability features, the programme also includes a **Watch List** of negative attributes.
- > If a product or service meets any **Watch List** criteria, it is excluded from being assessed against positive **SHP** criteria.

Links to Kingfisher's commitments: Strategic alignment of the Sustainable Home Product programme

The **Sustainable Home Product** (SHP) programme is a key delivery mechanism for many of **Kingfisher's responsible business commitments**.

- > The **SHP** programme is not a customer communication tool; rather, it is an internal framework that aligns product development and sourcing with key sustainability goals, including:
 - Decarbonisation.
 - Forest Positive.
 - Circularity.

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The **SHP** programme supports Kingfisher's alignment with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals**, a global framework for ending poverty, reducing inequality, and tackling climate change by 2030. These Goals have shaped the development of Kingfisher's **Responsible Business** strategy, with a focus on priority areas where the company can have the greatest impact.

Kingfisher is a signatory to Better Retail, Better World, a **British Retail Consortium** (BRC) initiative that supports the SDGs. The **SHP** programme has been developed with reference to the SDG framework, which has guided the creation of criteria and helped target areas for improvement.

- > Vendor-branded products.
- > Kingfisher's own and exclusive brands.
- > Services (where they have a sales value), which are assessed using the same evidence-based approach as physical products.



Decarbonisation

Kingfisher is committed to achieving Net Zero Scopes 1, 2 and 3 emissions across its value chain by 2050. The **SHP** programme supports this goal through the **Point-of-View Approach: Addressing carbon emissions**, described later in the guidelines.

Forest Positive

Kingfisher's Forest Positive commitment includes:

- > 100% responsibly sourced wood and paper across the business.
- > No deforestation from other materials used.
- > Investment in forest landscape initiatives that protect and restore forests and support local communities.

Products must comply with **Kingfisher's Forest Positive** policy to be eligible for **SHP** assessment. This policy is available on Kingfisher's website.

Point-of-View approach: Supporting biodiversity further explains how **SHP** criteria support this commitment.

Circularity

Kingfisher is advancing its approach to circular economy thinking. The **SHP** programme supports this ambition through the **Point-of-View approach: Towards a circular economy**, which links product criteria to circular design principles.

Packaging

While **SHP** criteria focus on the product itself, packaging must meet all regulatory and policy requirements. For Kingfisher's Own and Exclusive Brands, packaging priorities include:

- > Reducing unnecessary materials.
- > Ensuring cardboard and fibre-based packaging is responsibly sourced.
- > Using recyclable plastics with at least 30% recycled content when plastic is unavoidable.

Kingfisher's sustainable packaging policy is available on its website.

Ethical and human rights

Products must comply with all relevant regulatory and policy requirements to be eligible for SHP assessment. This includes:

- > Human rights policy.
- > Supply chain workplace standards.
- > Animal welfare policy.

These policies are publicly available on [**Kingfisher's website.**](#)

03 Structure of Sustainable Home Products

Attributes

The **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines organise over 300 product criteria into nine attributes, each addressing a different stage of a product's lifecycle - from raw material sourcing and manufacturing to use in the home and end-of-life considerations:

Lifestyle stage	Sustainable Home Product attributes			
Materials used to make products	 Made from Alternative Materials	 Made from Recycled Materials	 Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	
Manufacturing products	 Made using Lower Impact Manufacturing			
Use in customer's homes	 Protecting Health at Home	 Saving Energy at Home	 Saving Water at Home	 Supporting Biodiversity at Home
Product's end-of-life	 Extending Product Lifecycles			

Criteria

Each of the nine attributes in the **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines is supported by a set of criteria - with over 300 in total. Most of these are positive criteria, describing features that contribute to a product's sustainability.

In some cases, criteria are structured in tiers, allowing products that meet higher performance standards to be recognised at multiple levels.

For example:

- > A basin tap may meet the standard water efficiency criterion of 8 litres per minute at 3 bar pressure.
- > A more efficient tap that achieves 6 litres per minute at 3 bar pressure would meet a second, higher-level criterion.

In this case, the product would qualify for two criteria. Criteria can be applied to any product or service sold by a Kingfisher retail banner, including both vendor-branded and own-brand items.

Watch List

In addition to positive criteria, the **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines include **Watch List** criteria, which identify negative product features that disqualify a product from being recognised as a **Sustainable Home Product**.

Each **Watch List** criterion is linked to one of the nine attributes. For example:

- > Petrol-powered tools are **Watch Listed** under the attribute **Protecting Health at Home**, due to their contribution to air pollution. There is also a strong case for linking them to **Saving Energy at Home**, given the carbon emissions associated with their use.

Even if a **Watch Listed** product has positive features - such as being made from 100% recycled materials - it cannot qualify as a **Sustainable Home Product**.

All **Watch Listed** products must still comply with legal and policy requirements. Kingfisher has policies and strategies in place to phase out many **Watch Listed** features as effective and affordable alternatives become available at scale.

04 Green star



04 The green star product mark



As industry experts, we understand the environmental impact of home improvement projects, and we know this can be confusing for customers.

That's why we've created the green star product mark: to empower customers with better information and greater choice.



The **green star** mark helps customers easily identify products with a lower environmental impact, both in-store and online. It's designed to:

- > Signpost products that have a reduced impact on the environment.
- > Highlight why the product has a reduced environmental impact.
- > Help customers make informed environmental choices in home improvement.

Sustainability is complex, and no product is entirely free from environmental impact. But the **green star** mark helps guide customers toward more responsible choices.

How it works

- > **Green star** products are a subset of **Sustainable Home Products**.
- > They are assessed against a specific set of **green star** criteria, which shape the claims made about each product.
- > Products are internally reviewed and externally verified before receiving the mark.
- > Each product is supported by a factsheet, available on [Kingfisher's website](#), explaining:
 - What the **green star** mark means.
 - Which attributes the product meets.
 - Why those attributes matter to customers.

Customer facing claims

All customer-facing sustainability claims are based solely on the **green star** programme, not the broader **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines. This ensures that claims are:

- > Simple.
- > Understandable.
- > Justifiable.

The **green star** mark is developed and maintained by experts in sustainability, ensuring that every claim is backed by evidence and aligned with best practice.

05

Points-of-View approach



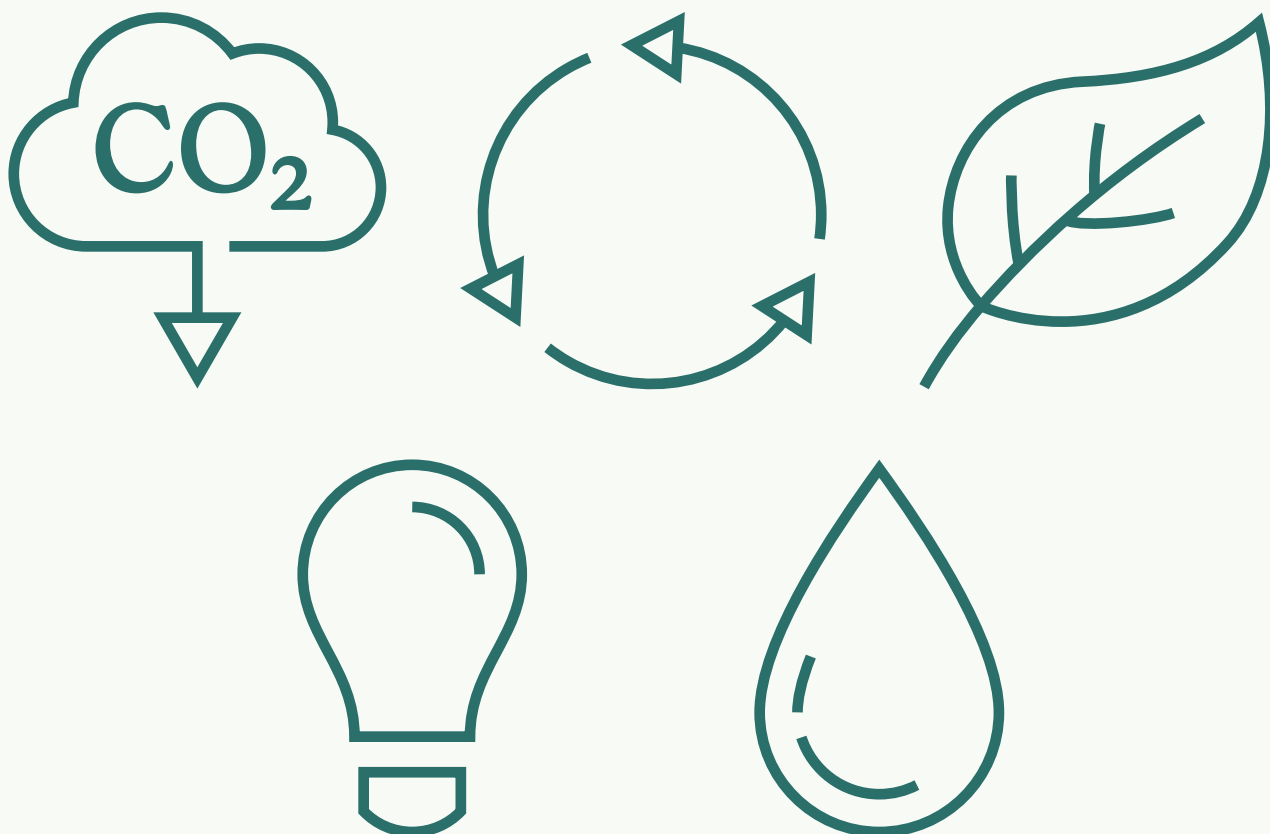
05 Points-of-View approach

In 2025, Kingfisher introduced a **Points-of-View** (POV) approach to complement the nine core attributes of the **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines. This framework enables more targeted tracking of progress across five key sustainability areas:

1. Addressing carbon emissions.
2. Towards a circular economy.
3. Supporting biodiversity.
4. Energy saving products.
5. Water saving products.

As part of this approach, all existing criteria were reviewed and re-evaluated to determine their relevance to one or more of these sustainability areas.

Each criterion that aligns with a **POV** area is marked with a corresponding icon. These icons are displayed throughout the guidelines, with full listings provided in [Appendix 6](#).



Point-of-View approach: Addressing carbon emissions

Kingfisher is **committed to achieving** science-based carbon reduction targets across Scopes 1, 2 and 3:

- > Scope 1 and 2 emissions include the energy used to light and heat our stores and offices, as well as transport within our distribution network.
- > Scope 3 emissions cover the broader value chain, including:
 - Emissions from vendors and their suppliers during product manufacturing.
 - Emissions from customers using our products.

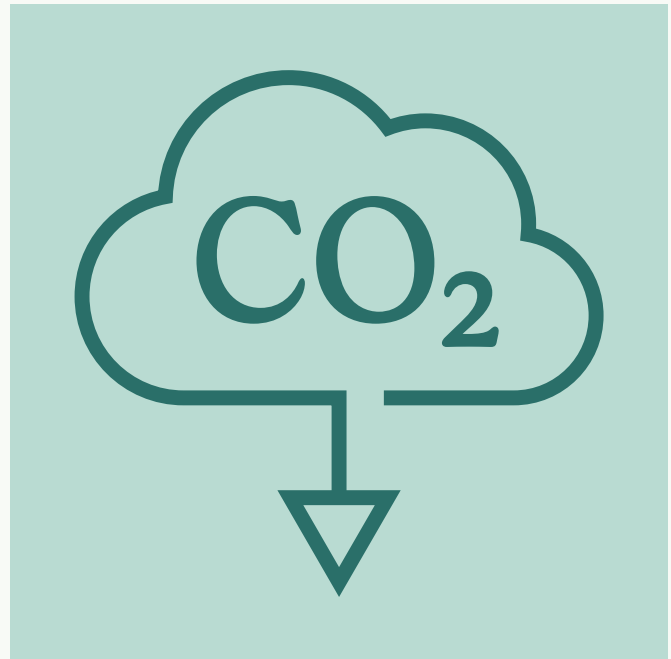
In 2021, Kingfisher's targets were approved by the **Science Based Targets** initiative (SBTi), confirming alignment with the **Paris Climate Agreement** goal to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

As part of this commitment, Kingfisher aims to reduce emissions from supply chain and customer product use by 19.7%, contributing to an overall Scope 3 emissions intensity reduction target of 40% by 2025.

The role of home improvement products in reducing emissions

Improving product design and material choices is a key strategy for reducing Scope 3 emissions. For example:

- > Transitioning to **energy-efficient products** helps customers reduce energy use at home.
- > Replacing **carbon-intensive materials** with lower-impact alternatives reduces emissions during production.



Understanding Scope 3 emissions

Scope 3 emissions are divided into two main categories:

1. Upstream (Before products reach Kingfisher)

- > Extraction and processing of raw materials.
- > Energy used in manufacturing.
- > Transport of products to Kingfisher's distribution centres and stores.

2. Downstream (After products leave Kingfisher)

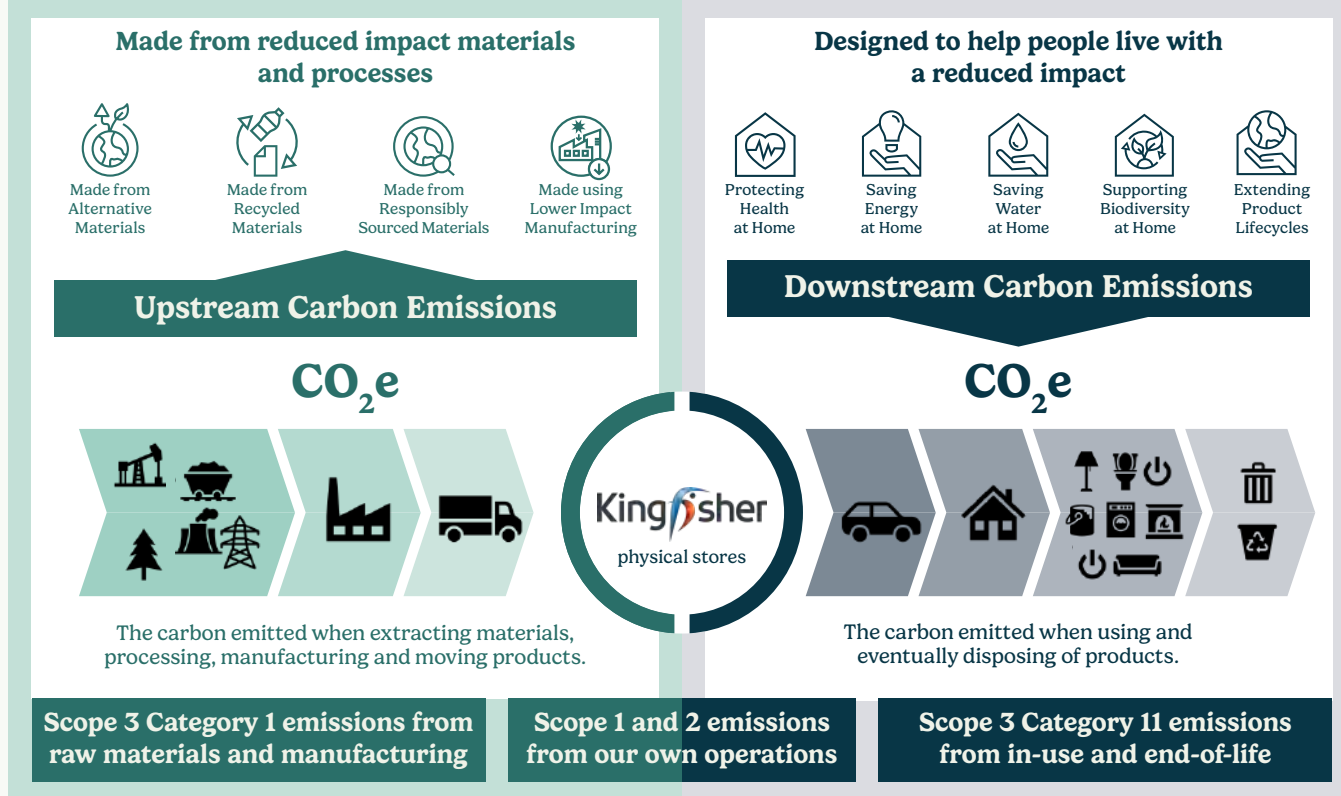
- > Customer transport of products home.
- > Product use, such as energy consumed by lighting or appliances.
- > End-of-life disposal of products and packaging.

For 2024/5, Kingfisher's Scope 3 emissions were estimated to comprise over 99% of Kingfisher's Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions.

Addressing Scope 3 emissions is a complex but essential part of Kingfisher's climate strategy - and the **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines play a key role in identifying and promoting lower-impact product choices.

Sustainable Home Products: Delivering Kingfisher's decarbonisation

SHP integrates with Kingfisher's plans to decarbonise



How the Sustainable Home Product programme supports Scope 3 carbon reduction

The **Sustainable Home Product (SHP)** programme plays a key role in addressing Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions - those generated across the value chain, both before and after products reach customers.

Upstream emissions (before products reach Kingfisher)

The **SHP** programme addresses upstream emissions through criteria that focus on:

1. Extracting materials

- > **Made from Alternative Materials:** Encourages the use of natural alternatives to carbon-intensive materials.
- > **Made from Recycled Materials:** Promotes materials with lower emissions compared to virgin equivalents.
- > **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials:** Supports sourcing schemes that reduce emissions at the extraction stage.

2. Manufacturing

- > **Made Using Lower Impact Manufacturing:** Recognises factories and suppliers implementing low-impact manufacturing practices.

Downstream emissions (after products leave Kingfisher)

The **SHP** programme also supports customers in reducing emissions through:

- > **Energy and water efficient products:** (Attributes: Saving Energy at Home, Saving Water at Home).
 - Help customers reduce energy and water use during product operation.
- > **Thermal efficiency improvements:** (e.g. insulation)
 - Reduce household energy demand.

- > **Enabling Renewable Energy Use:**
 - Supports the transition to cleaner energy sources.
- > **Extending Product Lifecycles:**
 - Products that last longer or can be repaired delay end-of-life emissions and reduce the need for replacements.
- > **Encouraging reuse, composting, and recycling:**
 - Reduces waste and emissions from disposal.

Using the Points-of-View approach to target carbon reduction

Many **SHP** criterion contributes in some way to reducing carbon emissions. The **Point-of-View**: Addressing carbon emissions helps Kingfisher focus on the most impactful areas:

Materials

Targeting carbon-intensive materials such as:

- > **Ceramics**
- > **Cement and concrete**
- > **Glass**
- > **Metals**
- > **Peat**
- > **Plastics**
- > **Wood**

Process

- > Recognising manufacturers that implement carbon reduction schemes.

Product design

- > Using lifecycle analysis to reduce the overall carbon footprint of products.

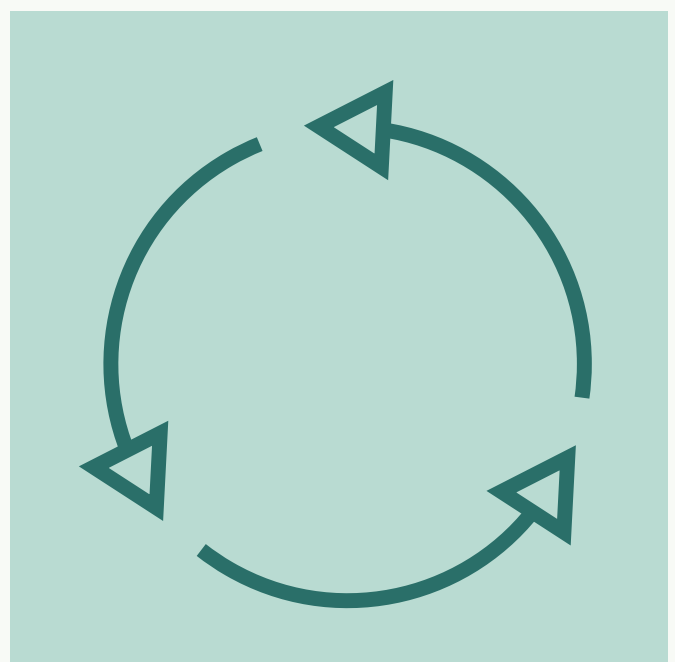
Use phase

- > Promoting energy-efficient and renewable energy-compatible products.

This structured approach enables Kingfisher to measure progress toward its science-based Scope 3 emissions reduction targets, while helping customers make lower-impact choices.

Point-of-View approach: Towards a circular economy

The circular economy is about using resources more intelligently - shifting away from the traditional extract-make-use-dispose model toward one based on sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing, and recycling. It also involves designing products using alternative or recycled materials, with the ultimate goal of using only renewable resources and eliminating waste.



The role of after-sales services

After-sales services are essential to enabling circularity. These services support repair and reuse, either by:

- > Empowering customers with advice and spare parts, or
- > Providing repair services, often linked to product warranties.

Better product design for circularity

Circular design principles can include:

- > **Modularity:** Allows customers to adapt or repair products more easily.
- > **Risk-based design:** Identifying components most likely to fail and improving their durability.
- > **Obsolescence management:** Ensuring spare parts remain available and functional over time.

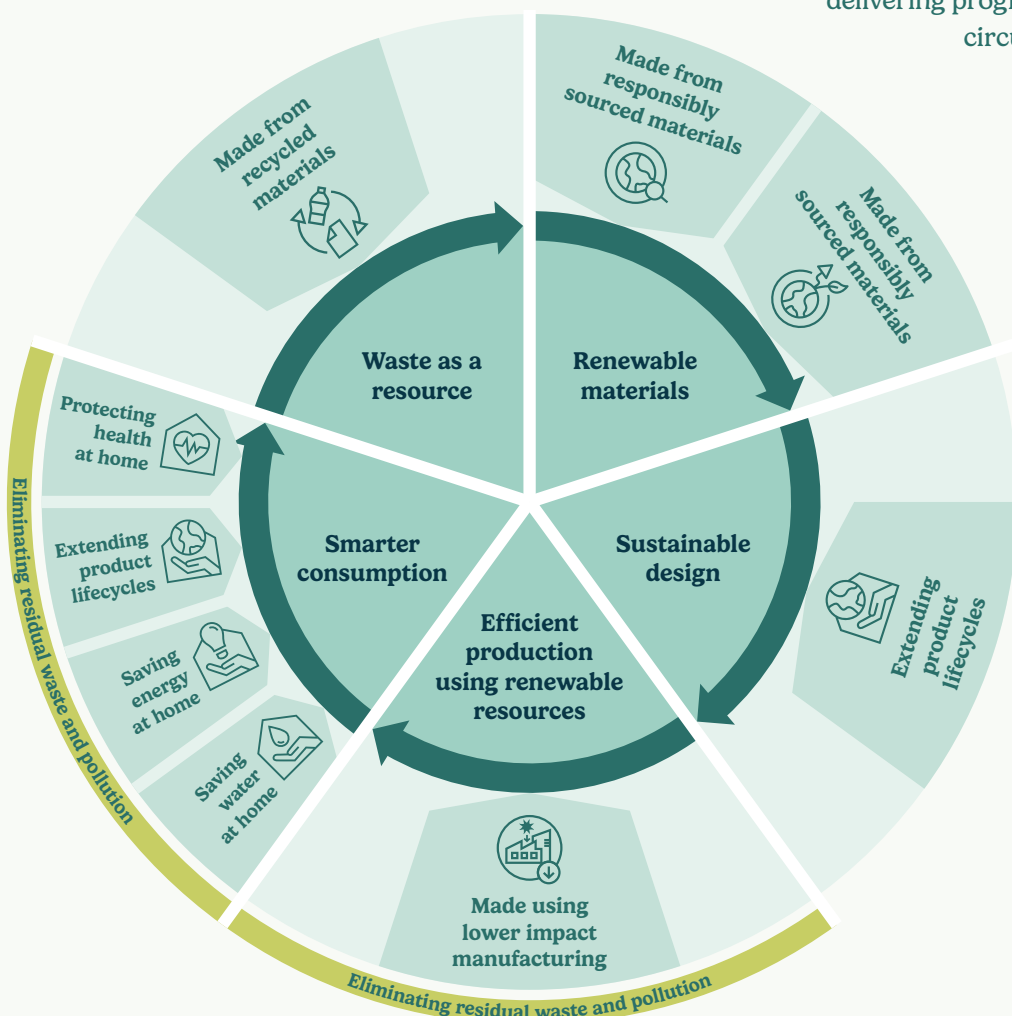
Warranties and extended producer responsibility

Longer warranties play a key role in circularity by extending **producer responsibility** beyond legal minimums. Warranty length is typically based on **risk**:

- > If a product is expected to fail within 5 years but carries a **10-year warranty**, the producer assumes a higher risk of claims.
- > If the warranty aligns with the product's **expected lifespan**, the risk is lower.

By offering longer warranties, producers signal confidence in product durability and support a more sustainable, circular approach to consumption.

Sustainable Home Products are delivering progress to a more circular economy.



Point-of-View: Towards a circular economy

Using the **Point-of-View** (POV) approach, Kingfisher can identify and prioritise criteria that are most relevant to helping our customers use energy and water more efficiently.

Key areas of focus include:

1. Reducing waste and keeping products in use

- > Better design and durability to extend product lifespan.
- > Reuse, including second-hand products and reusable alternatives to single-use items.
- > Rental models, shifting from ownership to access (e.g. tool hire).
- > Repair, through:
 - Providing spare parts and repair advice.
 - Offering repair services linked to warranties.
 - Product design enabling easier repair.
 - Making clear documentation available.

2. Designing for end-of-life

- > Enabling products to be reused, composted, or recycled at the end of their life.
- > Designing with disassembly and material recovery in mind.

3. Using waste as a resource

- > Incorporating recycled materials into new products.
- > Supporting closed-loop systems where materials are continuously reused.

4. Using renewable resources

- > Prioritising renewable energy and water in production and use.
- > Using regenerative materials that replenish natural systems.

These criteria help Kingfisher track and accelerate progress toward a more circular product offering - supporting both environmental goals and long-term customer value.

Point-of-View: Supporting biodiversity

Biodiversity refers to the variety of life on Earth - including the vast number of species of plants, animals, fungi, and microorganisms. It plays a critical role in maintaining healthy ecosystems and supporting life as we know it.

According to the United Nations:

- > Over half of global GDP depends on nature and its services.
- > More than 1 billion people rely directly on forests for their livelihoods.
- > Many natural habitats, such as forests, wetlands, and oceans, act as carbon sinks, helping to regulate the climate.

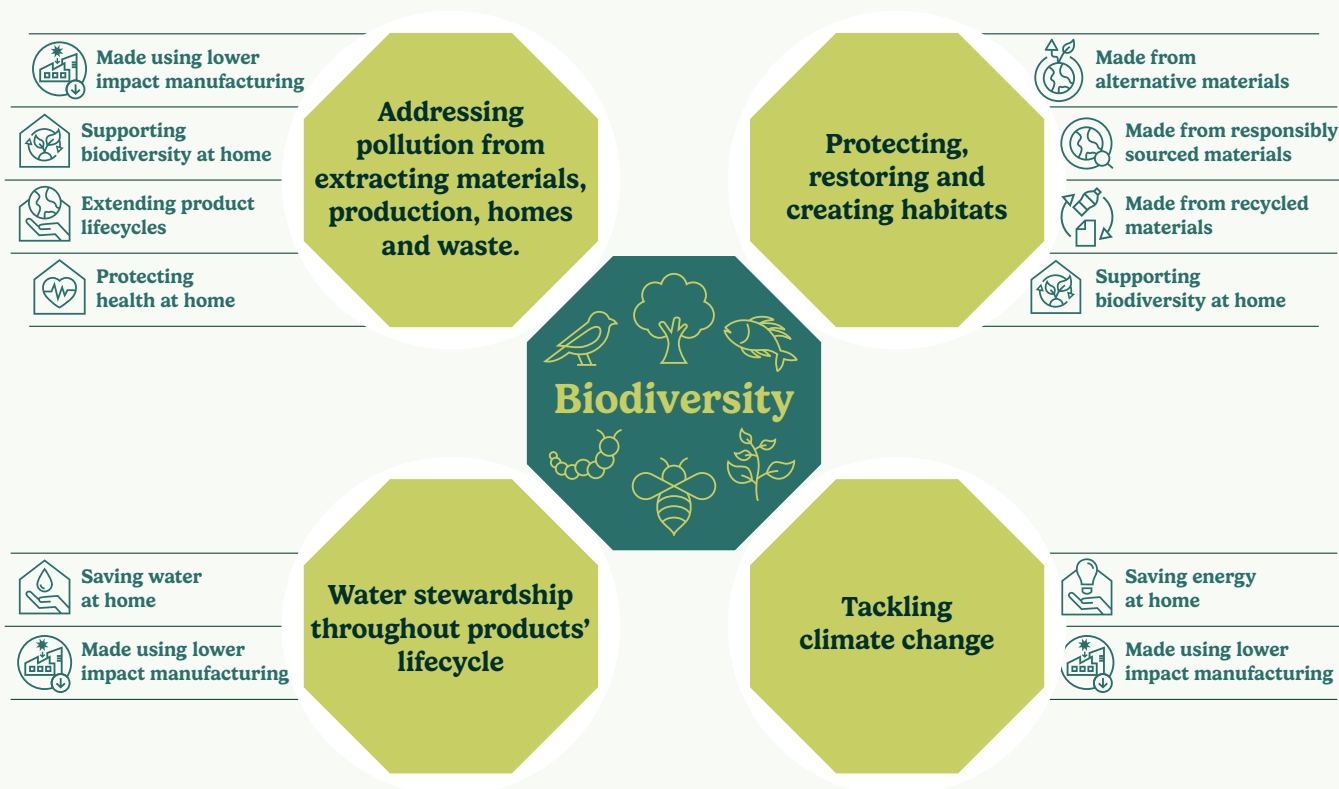


However, biodiversity is under severe threat. The UN estimates that up to one million species are at risk of extinction due to:

- > Land conversion for agriculture.
- > Climate change.
- > Wetland loss.
- > Overfishing.
- > Pollution of land and water.

Protecting biodiversity is not only essential for the planet - it's also vital for economic stability, food security, and climate resilience.

Sustainable Home Products are linked to supporting biodiversity, in production and in our homes and gardens.



For over 40 years, Kingfisher has been committed to addressing deforestation, requiring that all wood and paper used in its products be responsibly sourced.

In 1993, B&Q - a Kingfisher banner - was a founding partner of the **Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®)**, helping to establish global standards for sustainable forestry.

Kingfisher is also tackling the environmental impact of peat extraction, a major contributor to biodiversity loss and carbon emissions. The company is working toward a peat-free product range.

Materials and their impact on nature

Certain materials used in products can have a significant impact on natural ecosystems and biodiversity. These impacts often arise from how materials are sourced, grown, or extracted:

- > **High water and agrochemical use:**
 - Cotton is associated with intensive water use and pesticide application.
- > **Deforestation-linked materials:**
 - Wood, leather, rubber, palm oil, and soy are commonly linked to forest loss and habitat destruction.
- > **Mining, quarrying, and fossil fuel extraction:**
 - Metals, clay, stone, sand, and plastics can contribute to land degradation, pollution, and ecosystem disruption.

Manufacturing impacts

Beyond material selection, how products are made also affects nature. Manufacturing processes can:

- > Consume large volumes of water.
- > Emit pollutants into air, water, and soil.
- > Contribute to habitat degradation and climate change.

Choosing lower-impact materials and cleaner production methods is essential to reducing the environmental footprint of products and protecting biodiversity.

Helping nature thrive at home

Customers can make a real difference to local biodiversity by making thoughtful changes to their outdoor spaces. Whether it's a garden, balcony, or shared green area, small actions can have a big impact.

- > **Grow pollinator-friendly plants** – Flowers that attract bees and butterflies support vital ecosystems.
- > **Add natural features** – Shrubs, trees, ponds, and even compost bins can create valuable habitats for wildlife.
- > **Avoid harmful practices** – Steer clear of chemical pesticides, invasive non-native plants, and sources of pollution.
- > **Use water wisely** – Simple steps like collecting rainwater or choosing drought-tolerant plants help conserve this precious resource.

Sustainable Home Products: Supporting biodiversity through better choices

From a sustainability point of view, our product criteria are designed to support biodiversity by addressing key environmental impacts:

- > **Material impact** – We avoid or minimize the use of materials that are harmful when extracted or produced, such as:
 - Peat.
 - Cotton.
 - Wood.
 - Metals.
 - Clay.
 - Stone.
 - Plastics.
- > **Pollution reduction** – We consider the effects of chemicals, airborne particulates, and microplastics from both production and everyday use.
- > **Water stewardship** – Our criteria promote responsible water use in manufacturing and at home.
- > **Habitat regeneration** – We support products and practices that help restore natural habitats, especially in gardens and outdoor spaces.

Point-of-View: Energy saving and water saving products

Using the **Point-of-View** (POV) approach, Kingfisher can identify and prioritise criteria that are most relevant to helping our customers use energy and water more efficiently.

These criteria focus on:

- > **Reducing energy consumption** – through efficient design, low-energy manufacturing processes, and products that help customers lower their household energy use.
- > **Improving water efficiency** – by supporting products that use less water, encourage water reuse, or improve water management both in production and at home.

These are the products that can help our customers to manage their use of these resources and may help to reduce energy and water bills.

Energy saving products

These products are designed to help our customers use energy more efficiently in their homes, supporting both environmental goals and potential cost savings. They include:

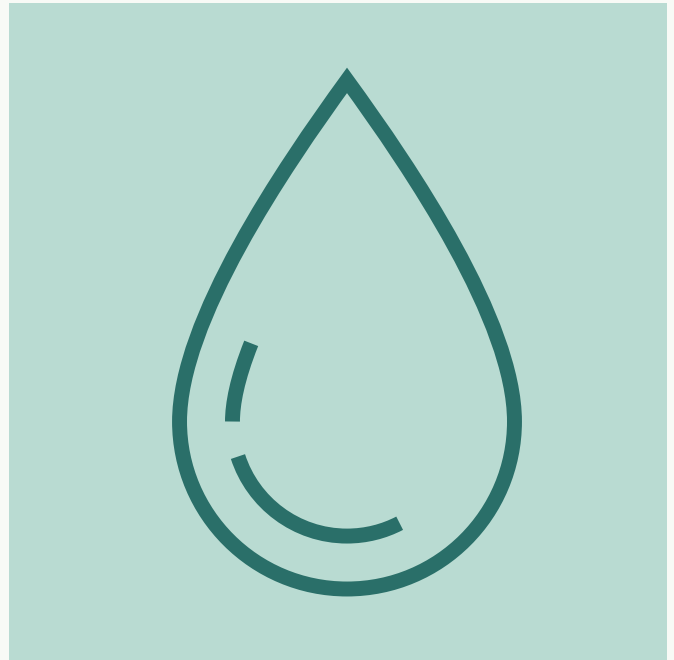
- > **Energy-efficient appliances and devices** – such as more efficient LED lighting, low-energy kitchen appliances, and efficient heating systems.
- > **Thermal efficiency solutions** – including insulation, draught-proofing materials, energy-efficient doors, and double or triple-glazed windows to reduce heat loss.
- > **Energy control technologies** – like programmable thermostats, timers, and smart home systems that help monitor and manage energy use.
- > **Renewable energy systems** – such as solar thermal panels and solar photovoltaic (PV) systems that generate clean energy.
- > **Energy storage solutions** – including home battery systems that enable better use of renewable energy.
- > **Alternatives to energy using products** – such as hand-push lawn mowers, sun tunnels for natural lighting, and clothes lines as alternatives to tumble dryers.



Water saving products

These products can help our customers use water more efficiently in their homes and gardens, supporting sustainability and helping to reduce water bills. They include:

- > **Water-efficient fixtures** – such as low-flow taps, toilets, and showers that reduce water usage without compromising performance.
- > **Water-saving appliances and accessories** – including lower-capacity baths, tap flow regulators, washing-up bowls, and efficient washing machines and dishwashers.
- > **Leak prevention and water waste reduction tools** – such as replacement toilet valves, tap reseating tools, washers, indoor flood alarms, and smart water control systems.
- > **Grey water systems** – products that enable the reuse of water from sinks, showers, and washing machines for non-potable purposes.
- > **Rainwater harvesting solutions** – including water butts and compatible products like watering cans.
- > **Garden water efficiency products** – such as micro-irrigation systems, mulch, water timers, pots with built-in reservoirs, soil conditioners, and organic manure to retain moisture and reduce the need for frequent watering.



06

Bioregional



06 Bioregional

The Sustainable Home Product guidelines date back to 2008, when B&Q began collaborating with the social enterprise Bioregional on its pioneering One Planet Home programme.

This initiative introduced a curated list of products with verified sustainability credentials - marking the beginning of what would evolve into the **Sustainable Home Products** programme.

Since then, **Bioregional** has worked closely with Kingfisher, bringing its environmental expertise to the heart of the programme. Acting as Kingfisher's "critical friend," **Bioregional** plays a key role in:

- > Validating every sustainability criterion in the guidelines annually.
- > Verifying product assessments before they are reported.

This rigorous process ensures that the guidelines remain credible, transparent, and aligned with evolving sustainability standards.



Founded in 1994 by environmental entrepreneurs Sue Riddlestone OBE and Pooran Desai OBE, **Bioregional** is a UK-based charity and social enterprise committed to creating sustainable ways of living. Based in South London, **Bioregional** has led and advised on numerous groundbreaking projects, including:

- > **One Planet Living®** - A globally recognized framework that uses ecological footprinting to help organizations transition to sustainable practices.
- > **BedZED Eco-village (2002)** - The UK's first large-scale, mixed-use sustainable community, developed in partnership with the **Peabody Trust** and **ZEDfactory**.
- > **London 2012 Olympics** - Co-authored the sustainability strategy and supported its implementation.
- > **International advisory work** - Including Canada's largest net-zero residential community, the eco-town project in Bicester (Oxfordshire), and the Villages Nature Paris holiday park near Disneyland Paris.

07

Assessing products and services



07 Assessing products and services

Product assessment is at the heart of the Sustainable Home Products programme. Each year, thousands of products - including both vendor-branded and own-label items - are assessed by Kingfisher's Product Sustainability team.

Sources of assessment information

Assessments draw on a wide range of data, including:

- > Product specifications, bills of material, bills of substances, performance data.
- > Third-party certification schemes.
- > Information provided by vendors.

Scope of assessment

The programme covers:

- > Own and exclusive branded products.
- > Vendor-branded products.
- > Services.



Assessment criteria

To qualify as a **Sustainable Home Product**, a product must meet the following conditions:

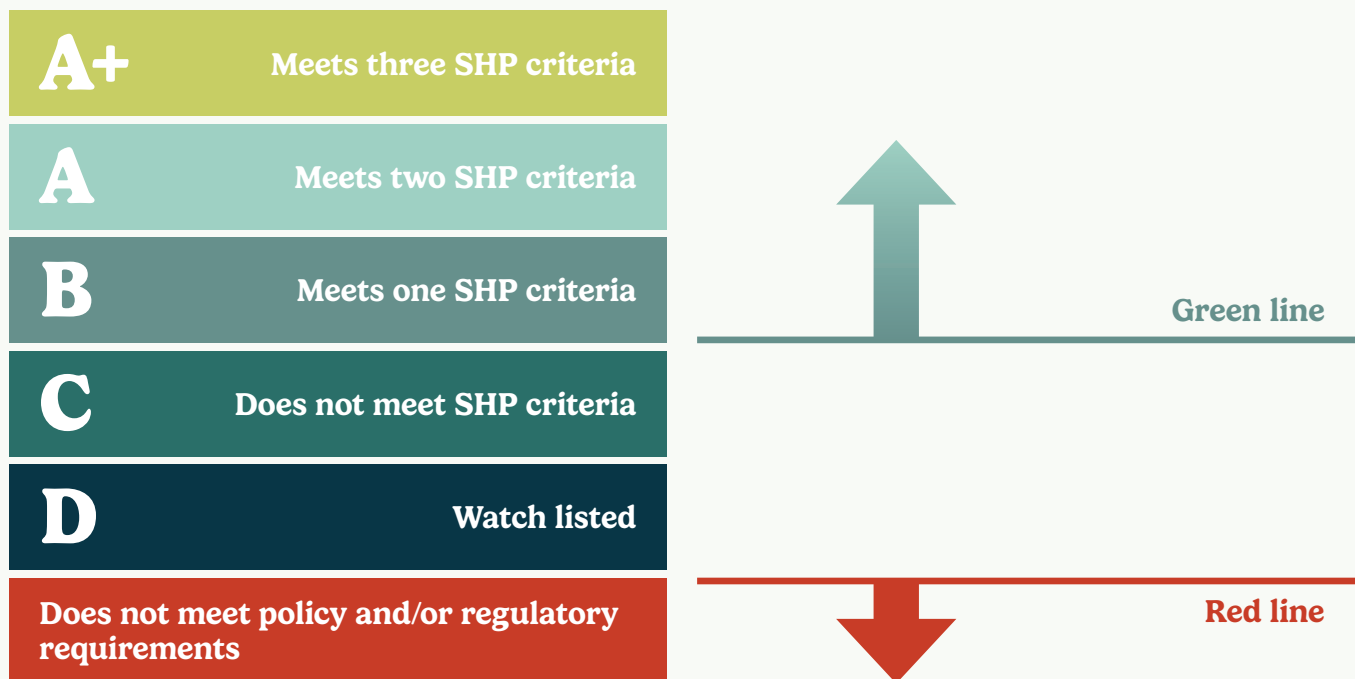
- > **Legal compliance:** The product must comply with all applicable legal requirements.
- > **Policy alignment:** It must meet all relevant Kingfisher and banner policies, including those related to packaging.
- > **Exclusion from the Watch List:** Products must not meet any criteria listed on the **Watch List** for any attribute, which identifies products that have negative features.
- > **Sustainability criteria:** The product must meet one or more **Sustainable Home Product** criteria.
 - A product can meet multiple criteria within a single attribute.
 - It can also meet criteria across different attributes.

Scoring system

Products that meet the above requirements are scored as follows:

- > **B** – Meets 1 **Sustainable Home Product** criterion
- > **A** – Meets 2 criteria
- > **A+** – Meets 3 or more criteria

Only products scoring B or higher are classified as Sustainable Home Products.



Evidence required for criteria development and product assessment

The **Sustainable Home Products** programme is grounded in a commitment to being evidence-based - both in how criteria are developed and how products are assessed.

Evidence for criteria development

- > **Third-party schemes:**
 - Evaluation of scheme details, including their environmental and social relevance and governance structures.
- > **Life Cycle Analysis (LCA):**
 - Used to identify environmental impacts across a product's life cycle.
 - While not every product has a full LCA, existing LCA work and related evidence inform the development of criteria.
- > **Market information:**
 - Assessing performance data for products across the wider market to understand where to set the bar for "what good looks like" for sustainability related metrics.
- > **Government directives and regulations:**
 - Ensuring alignment with current and emerging legal requirements.
- > **NGO campaigns:**
 - These help to draw attention to research.
- > **Academic and commissioned research:**
 - Providing scientific and technical foundations for criteria.

Bioregional, acting as Kingfisher's "critical friend," reviews all proposed changes or additions to criteria to ensure the supporting evidence is sufficient and credible.

Evidence for criteria development

The type of evidence required to assess whether a product meets the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria depends on the specific criterion and product type.

Evidence may include:

- > Product type and specifications.
- > Membership and/or approval against third-party certification schemes.
- > Performance levels demonstrated through labels, schemes, or test data.
- > Assessment of material composition.
- > **Environmental Product Declarations** (EPDs).
- > Compliance with voluntary standards (e.g. ISO 17889-1 for ceramic tiles).

Bioregional also verifies product assessments and flags any cases where:

- > A product may have been incorrectly assessed.
- > Additional evidence is needed.

All **Sustainable Home Products** are subject to external audit as part of Kingfisher's Responsible Business reporting.

Product lifecycle

The **Sustainable Home Products** programme takes a holistic view of sustainability by considering the entire lifecycle of a product - from raw material extraction to end-of-life disposal. While not every product undergoes a full Life Cycle Analysis (LCA), lifecycle thinking is embedded in the assessment process to ensure that products with significant sustainability concerns are not included.

To safeguard the integrity of the programme, two key mechanisms are in place:

> **Kingfisher policy compliance:**

- Products that do not meet relevant Kingfisher policies - including those related to sourcing, packaging, and environmental impact - are excluded from assessment as **Sustainable Home Products**.

> **Watch List exclusion:**

- Products that meet any of the **Watch List** criteria are also excluded, regardless of whether they meet other positive sustainability criteria.
- The **Watch List** is designed to identify and prevent the inclusion of products with problematic features - such as harmful materials, unsustainable practices, or significant lifecycle impacts. It is important that products that are problematic for any aspect of sustainability will not be assessed with the **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines.

Links to Kingfisher policy

Before a product can be assessed as a **Sustainable Home Product**, it must first comply with all relevant Kingfisher and banner policies. This initial compliance check is carried out by various specialist teams across Kingfisher and its banners, including:

- > **Animal welfare policy.**
- > **Chemicals policy.**
- > **Human rights policy.**
- > **Supply chain workplace standards.**
- > **Sustainable packaging policy.**

08 Criteria by attribute



08 Criteria by Attribute



Made from Alternative Materials



Made from Recycled Materials



Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials



Made using Lower Impact Manufacturing



Protecting Health at Home



Saving Energy at Home



Saving Water at Home



Supporting Biodiversity at Home



Extending Product Lifecycles



Made from Alternative Materials

Replacing materials that have a damaging impact on the environment is a key principle of the Sustainable Home Products programme.

The attribute **Made from Alternative Materials** applies when a product substitutes a problematic material with a positively defined, environmentally preferable alternative.

Examples of material substitution:

- > Replacing plastic garden canes with bamboo.
- > Using linen instead of cotton.
- > Substituting plastic foam with cork.

However, not all natural materials automatically qualify. The alternative material must demonstrate strong environmental credentials, such as:

- > Lower environmental impact across its lifecycle.
- > Responsible sourcing.
- > Renewability or recyclability.
- > Reduced carbon footprint or water use.

Simply choosing a “natural” material is not sufficient - the substitute must have an evidence-based and sustainability-driven benefit.



There are **green star** criteria relating to this attribute and details are shown alongside the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.

Material substitution example: cotton and its alternatives

While cotton is a natural material, it poses significant environmental challenges - particularly in terms of water usage. **According to the World Wildlife Fund**, it takes approximately 2,700 litres of water to grow enough cotton to produce just one t-shirt. This highlights the importance of considering not just whether a material is natural, but how it is produced and its overall environmental footprint.

The **Made from Alternative Materials** attribute encourages the use of materials with lower environmental impacts. In the case of cotton, viable alternatives include:

- > Linen – Requires less water and fewer pesticides to grow.
- > Lyocell (TENCEL™) – A regenerated cellulose fibre made from sustainably sourced wood pulp, produced in a closed-loop process that recycles water and solvents.

While substitution is one strategy, other approaches are recognised under different attributes in the guidelines:

- > Responsibly sourced cotton – Certified by schemes such as Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) or organic standards.
- > Recycled cotton – Reduces demand for virgin cotton and lowers environmental impact.

These approaches ensure that sustainability is addressed from multiple angles, whether through material innovation or improved sourcing practices.

Moving away from high impact materials

Replacing materials with high environmental impact is a core aim of the **Sustainable Home Products** programme. The attribute **Made from Alternative Materials** is applied when a product uses a substitute material that is demonstrably safer and/or more sustainable, based on credible evidence.

Evidence-based criteria

The criteria for this attribute are grounded in research that confirms:

- > The alternative material can be used safely.
- > Its environmental impacts are well understood and lower than the material it replaces.

The criteria for the **Made from Alternatives** attribute are based on research where evidence demonstrates that the new material can be used safely and where environmental impacts are understood.

Many of the materials the **Sustainable Home Product** programme is seeking to replace are listed in the **Watch List** for this attribute, including peat.

While materials like cotton and forest-derived wood can be responsibly sourced to mitigate their impact, the **Made from Alternative Materials** attribute enables broader substitution with lower-impact alternatives. Many virgin plastics can be substituted by recycled plastics but can also be replaced by other materials.

Please note that although some of the materials listed here might be incorporated into solid fuels for burning, solid fuels are **Watch Listed** under the attribute **Protecting Health at Home**.

Material assessment approach

For most criteria under this attribute, the focus is on the product's main material - defined as the single largest material by weight. However, there are three exceptions:

- > Peat-free products.
- > Assessed based on the absence of peat, regardless of its proportion.
- > Seaweed-based products.
- > Even when present in small amounts, seaweed may replace high-carbon components in garden chemicals like fertilisers.

The criteria for the **Made from Alternatives** attribute are based on research where evidence demonstrates that the new material can be used safely and where environmental impacts are understood.

Mixed materials

Products made from a combination of positively defined materials are assessed under the **Mixed Materials criteria**.



Contents for criteria in the Made from Alternative Materials attribute:

- > [Alternatives to cotton and plastic derived textiles and fibres](#)
- > [Alternatives to peat](#)
- > [Alternatives to plastics](#)
- > [Alternatives to forest derived wood](#)
- > [Alternatives to conventional fertilisers](#)
- > [Watch List criteria](#)



Made from Alternative Materials criteria

Alternatives to cotton and plastic derived textiles and fibres

Hemp

Industrial hemp is a fast-growing annual crop cultivated for a wide range of uses, including fibre, animal feed, and biomaterials. It is increasingly recognised as a low-impact alternative to more resource-intensive materials.

- > Water efficiency - Hemp requires less than half the water needed to grow cotton, making it a more sustainable fibre crop.
- > Fast growth - It matures in just 3–4 months, allowing for efficient land use and multiple harvests in some regions.
- > Low input - Hemp typically needs fewer pesticides and herbicides compared to conventional crops.



Applications:

- > Textiles – Used as a durable, breathable alternative to cotton in fabrics.
- > Rope and string – Hemp fibres can replace plastic fibres in ropes and cords.
- > Building materials – Hemp is increasingly used in construction, including hempcrete and insulation.

These qualities make hemp a strong candidate for the **Made from Alternative Materials** attribute, especially when replacing high-impact materials like cotton, plastic, or synthetic fibres.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is hemp.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is hemp.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.

Jute (hessian)

Jute, also known as hessian, is a natural fibre derived from plants in the mallow family. It is a rain-fed crop, meaning it typically requires no additional irrigation - making it a water-efficient alternative to more resource-intensive fibres like cotton.

- > Low water use – Grows with natural rainfall, reducing pressure on freshwater resources.
- > Carbon capture – Studies have shown that jute cultivation can help sequester carbon, contributing to climate change mitigation.
- > Jute is compostable at end of life.



Applications:

- > Sacking and bags.
- > Floor mats and rugs.
- > Yarn and twine – Often used as a substitute for cotton or polyester in packaging and gardening products.

These qualities make jute a strong candidate for the **Made from Alternative Materials** attribute, especially when replacing synthetic or high-impact natural fibres.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is jute.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is jute.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.

Linen

Linen is a natural fibre made from the flax plant (*Linum usitatissimum*). It is widely recognised for its durability, breathability, and lower environmental impact compared to cotton.

- > Water efficiency – Flax typically requires less water to grow than cotton.
- > Low fertiliser use – It grows well in poor soils with minimal chemical input.



Applications:

- > Fabric – A sustainable alternative to cotton or polyester in clothing, home textiles, and upholstery.
- > Twine and rope – Used in gardening, packaging, and crafts as a natural fibre substitute for synthetic materials.

These qualities make linen a strong candidate for the **Made from Alternative Materials** attribute, especially when replacing high-impact fibres in textiles and household products.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is jute.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Lyocell

Lyocell is a type of rayon made from cellulose, typically sourced from eucalyptus trees. These trees grow rapidly and often require no irrigation, that can make them a more sustainable raw material compared to traditional fibre crops.

While eucalyptus is a fast-growing and efficient crop, eucalyptus plantations have been linked to deforestation and biodiversity loss in some regions. Therefore, responsible sourcing is essential to ensure that Lyocell production does not contribute to the destruction of natural forests or ecosystems.



Applications:

- > Bedding and home textiles.
- > Clothing and fashion fabrics.
- > An alternative to cotton or polyester in soft, breathable applications.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is lyocell.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight..



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Raffia (also spelt as Raphia)

Natural raffia is a biodegradable fibre extracted from the leaves of raffia palm trees, which are known for their exceptionally long fronds. The fibre is traditionally used in basketry, ropes, and crafts, and is increasingly valued as a sustainable alternative to plastic-based materials.

- > Low-impact harvesting – The fibres are stripped from the leaves without needing to fell the tree.
- > Raffia is a plant-based material that breaks down naturally.
- > Non-synthetic dye requirement – To meet the **Made from Alternative Materials** criteria, raffia should not be dyed with synthetic dyes, which can introduce pollutants.



Applications:

- > Plant ties – A natural substitute for plastic ties in gardening.
- > Craft and packaging – As an alternative to plastic artificial raffia in decorative and functional applications.
- > Ropes and twine – Used in place of synthetic fibres for light-duty binding.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is raffia. It should not have been dyed synthetically. Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Ramie

Ramie is a natural fibre extracted from a plant in the nettle family. It is known for its strength, lustre, and sustainability benefits, making it a valuable alternative to conventional fibres like cotton and polyester.

- > High yield – Ramie can be harvested up to six times per year, making it a highly productive crop.
- > Low chemical input – It typically requires no pesticides or herbicides to grow.
- > As a plant-based fibre, ramie can naturally decompose at the end of its life cycle.



Applications:

- > Textiles and fabrics – Used as a sustainable alternative to cotton or polyester in clothing, upholstery, and home textile.



Criteria:



Products where the main material is ramie.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Sisal

Sisal is a natural fibre extracted from the agave plant, which thrives in arid and hot climates. It is well-suited to grow in regions where most other crops struggle, making it a valuable resource for sustainable agriculture and material production.

- > Drought-tolerant – Grows in dry, nutrient-poor soils with minimal water input.
- > Low chemical use – Requires few pesticides or fertilisers.



Sisal can be certified under schemes such as the **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)**, ensuring ethical and sustainable production.

Applications:

- > String and rope – A natural alternative to nylon and other synthetic fibres.
- > Flooring and mats – Used in rugs and carpets as a substitute for cotton or plastic-based materials.



Criteria:



Products where the main material is sisal.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Alternatives to peat

Peat free compost and other growing media

Peat is an organic material that forms over centuries in wetland environments, where plant matter decomposes slowly in anaerobic (oxygen-free) conditions. This process locks away significant amounts of carbon, making peatlands important carbon sinks.

However, when peat is extracted and used in gardening, it is exposed to aerobic (oxygen-rich) conditions, causing it to break down rapidly and release stored carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. This contributes to climate change.

- > Carbon storage – Peatlands store more carbon per hectare than forests.
- > Biodiversity – They provide critical habitats for a wide range of wildlife.
- > Flood mitigation – Peatlands help absorb and retain water, reducing flood risk.

Alternatives to using peat include wood fibre and coir. These may also meet **SHP** criteria, adding to the product's score. Please note that if the product formulation includes wood fibre, it should have been responsibly sourced in line with **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy.

Products include compost, topsoil and soil conditioner.

Growing media that contains peat is **Watch Listed**, as are fuels and plant pots made with peat.



Criteria:



Compost and other growing media that would previously have contained peat that are now peat free. Any wood fibre should be responsibly sourced in line with Kingfisher policy.



Criteria:

Compost and other growing media that would previously have contained peat that are now peat free. Any wood fibre should be responsibly sourced in line with Kingfisher policy.

Alternatives to plastic

Bagasse, sugar cane waste

Bagasse is the fibrous residue left after extracting juice from sugar cane during sugar production. For every unit of molasses produced, approximately six times as much bagasse is generated by weight. While a portion of it is often burned to fuel sugar processing facilities, a significant amount remains as unused waste.

Repurposing bagasse helps reduce agricultural waste and supports circular economy principles.

Renewable and biodegradable – As a plant-based material, bagasse is both renewable and compostable. However, if Bagasse is used in a composite material, this may not be the case. For these criteria, composite materials are not in scope.



Applications:

- > Panels and boards – Incorporated into construction and furniture materials as a wood alternative.
- > Plastic alternatives – Moulded into products that would otherwise be made from conventional plastics.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is bagasse.
Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Bamboo

Bamboo is a rapidly renewable grass that regenerates from its own root system, making it an efficient and low-impact resource. Its versatility allows it to replace a wide range of conventional materials, including plastic, wood, and metal.

Bamboo products can be responsibly sourced, with certifications such as the **Forest Stewardship Council** (FSC) helping to ensure ethical and sustainable harvesting practices.

There are environmental problems associated with some bamboo products.



- > Single-use bamboo garden torches – Excluded due to their contribution to outdoor air pollution when burned.
- > Bamboo fabric – Excluded because the conversion of bamboo fibres into textiles involves intensive chemical processing and high-water use.
- > Live bamboo plants – Some species can be invasive.
- > Single-use bamboo products – the **Watch List** excludes single use disposable products where there is an effective reusable alternative available.

Applications:

- > Plastic alternatives – e.g. garden screens, roller blinds, cutlery trays.
- > Wood substitutes – e.g. flooring, toilet seats.
- > Metal replacements – e.g. skewers, garden stakes, scaffold poles.



Criteria:



Products where the main material is bamboo.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.

Please note that live bamboo plants, bamboo fabrics and single-use products made from bamboo are all excluded.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is bamboo.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.

The bamboo should have a responsible sourcing certification.

Please note that live bamboo plants, bamboo fabrics and single-use products made from bamboo are all excluded.

Banana - fibre and leaves

Banana fibre and banana leaves are by-products from banana production.

Banana fibre is extracted from the stalk or trunk of the banana plant, which is typically discarded after fruit harvesting. It is a strong, biodegradable fibre that can be used in textiles, replacing plastic-derived fibres such as polyester.

Banana leaves are large, flexible, and naturally water-resistant. They are traditionally used for wrapping, serving food, and packaging, offering an alternative to plastic films and disposable plates.





Criteria:



Products where the main material is banana fibre or banana leaves.
Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Brushwood (heather)

Brushwood, often made from heather or dwarf pine, is a traditional and natural material used primarily for garden screening. It offers a sustainable alternative to plastic-based fencing and screens, blending well into natural landscapes.

- > Biodegradable – Unlike plastic screens, brushwood can naturally decompose at the end of its life.
- > Low processing impact – Requires minimal industrial processing compared to synthetic alternatives.
- > Renewable resource – When harvested responsibly, brushwood can be a renewable and low-impact material.

Applications:

- > Garden screening and fencing.
- > Windbreaks and privacy barriers.
- > Decorative landscaping features.



Criteria:



Products where the main material is brushwood.
Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



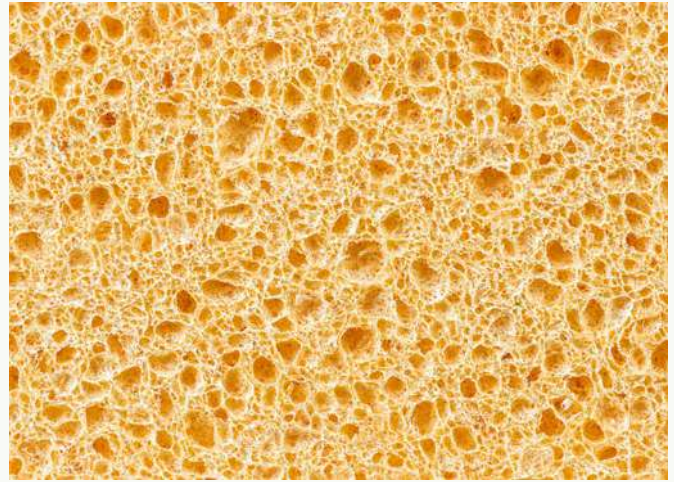
Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Cellulose as a sponge

Cellulose can be used as an alternative to plastic in cleaning sponges. Everyday cleaning tools like dish sponges may seem harmless - but they can be a hidden source of microplastic pollution. As these sponges wear down, tiny plastic fragments are released into wastewater, where they can eventually reach rivers and oceans.

Cellulose is often derived from wood pulp and when this is the case, the wood should be sourced according to Kingfisher policy.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is cellulose as a substitute for plastic.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.

- > If derived from wood pulp, this material should meet Kingfisher's wood and paper sourcing requirements.
- > Cellulose sponges with a plastic scrubber layer are excluded.

If the product contains cotton, the cotton should have been responsibly sourced.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Coconut fibre, including coir

Coconut fibre is a by-product of coconut processing. Coconut fibre used to be considered a difficult waste arising from coconut production, but processing the fibre to make coir has transformed the material into an economically useful by-product.

While coir has many benefits, its production can pose environmental risks. For example:

- > Water pollution can occur during the retting process (used to soften fibres), especially when done in unlined tanks.

To address this, Kingfisher conducted supply chain assessments when increasing the use of coir in compost products, ensuring responsible sourcing and processing practices.

Applications:

- > Matting and geotextiles – As a natural alternative to synthetic fibres.
- > Composts and growing media – As a peat-free option in gardening products.





Criteria:



Products where the main material is coconut fibre.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is coconut fibre.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.

The coconut fibre should have a responsible sourcing certification.

Cork

Cork is harvested from the bark of cork oak trees, primarily found in Spain, Portugal, and other Mediterranean countries. Uniquely, cork oaks can be harvested without being cut down, allowing the tree to continue growing and regenerating its bark - making cork a renewable, non-timber forest product.

- > Sustainable harvesting – Bark can be stripped every 9-12 years without harming the tree.
- > Biodiversity support – Cork oak forests provide valuable habitats for wildlife, including endangered species.
- > Carbon storage – Cork trees continue to absorb CO₂ even after harvesting.



With the rise of screw-top wine bottles, demand for cork has declined, putting some cork oak forests at risk. Supporting cork products helps maintain these ecologically important landscapes.

Cork can be certified by schemes such as the **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)**.

Applications:

- > Insulation and flooring – As a natural alternative to polyurethane (PU) foam.
- > Homeware and accessories – Including coasters, pinboards, and yoga blocks.



Criteria:



Products where the main material is coconut fibre.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is coconut fibre.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.

The coconut fibre should have a responsible sourcing certification.

Loofah as a scrubbing product

Plastic scrubbing products wear down, releasing tiny plastic fibres into wastewater, where they can eventually reach rivers and oceans.

Loofah is derived from a gourd and has been used for centuries as a cleaning product. Unlike plastic, the fibres will break down.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is loofah as a substitute for plastic.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.

- > If the loofah is part of a sponge scourer, the sponge should be cellulose. If the cellulose has been derived from wood pulp, it should meet Kingfisher's wood and paper sourcing requirements.
- > If mixed material materials, the product should meet minimum thresholds for this category.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Pinecones

Pinecones can be used as an alternative to plastic decorations and ornaments. Please note that the cones should not be sprayed with glitter or other plastics.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is pinecones.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight. Products containing glitter or other plastics should not be included.





Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Rattan

Natural rattan, derived from species within the Calamoideae subfamily of climbing palms, is classified as a non-timber forest product (NTFP). It is widely used in the manufacture of sustainable goods such as outdoor furniture, woven baskets, and lighting fixtures, offering an alternative to synthetic materials.

Please note that these criteria only apply to natural rattan.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is rattan.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Reed

Reed, a natural and renewable material, has long been valued for its role in traditional thatching.

In modern applications, it is increasingly used for garden screening and fencing, providing a substitute for synthetic materials.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is reed.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.





Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Water hyacinth

Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) is an invasive aquatic plant known for its rapid growth and tendency to obstruct waterways in tropical climates.

While its proliferation poses ecological and economic challenges, its biomass can be repurposed, helping to mitigate removal costs.

Applications include use as a biodegradable substitute for plastic or cotton in basketry and other woven products. The material should be uncoated and any processing should be congruent with retaining biodegradability.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is water hyacinth.
Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Alternatives to forest derived wood

Hazel

Hazel is a traditional coppice species, harvested for centuries without felling the entire tree. Through coppicing - a method where stems are periodically cut back to encourage regrowth - hazel produces a renewable supply of wood while enhancing woodland biodiversity.

As a non-forest wood, hazel is exempt from **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy for wood and paper sourcing. It can be used as a sustainable alternative to metal, plastic, or forest-derived wood in applications such as fencing, garden structures, and crafts





Criteria:



Products where the main material is hazel.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.

Please note that the hazel must be a non-forest timber and there should be documented proof that the hazel is from a coppiced source. The proof should align with Kingfisher's wood and paper sourcing policy.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Mango wood

Mango wood is sourced from fruit trees that are felled once they reach the end of their productive life - typically after around 15 years. Rather than being discarded, the wood is repurposed as a sustainable alternative to forest-derived hardwoods.

As an agricultural waste, mango wood is exempt from **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy for wood and paper sourcing.



Criteria:



Products where the main material is mango wood.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Olive wood

Olive wood is sourced from olive trees that are felled once they no longer produce fruit at commercially viable levels - typically after several decades. Rather than being discarded, the wood is repurposed as a sustainable alternative to forest-derived hardwoods.

As an agricultural waste, olive wood is exempt from **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy for wood and paper sourcing.

However, when used as a solid fuel, it is **Watch Listed** - along with all solid fuels - under the **Protecting Health at Home** attribute due to potential impacts on indoor air quality.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is olive wood.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Rice husks

Rice husks are a by-product of rice production, typically discarded or burned after harvesting.

Increasingly, they are being repurposed as a sustainable fibre in composite materials, offering an alternative to wood in products such as panels, boards, and moulded items.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is rice husks.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Rubberwood

Rubberwood is sourced from rubber plantations, where trees are harvested once they no longer produce latex at commercially viable levels. Rather than being discarded, the wood is repurposed as a sustainable alternative to forest-derived hardwoods in furniture and other wood-based products.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is rubberwood.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Straw, strawboard

Straw is an agricultural by-product generated during the cultivation of rice and other cereal crops. Rather than being discarded or burned, it can be repurposed as a sustainable alternative to virgin wood fibre in the production of MDF and particle board.

This use helps reduce reliance on forest-derived materials while making productive use of crop residues.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is straw.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Willow

Willow is a fast-growing tree commonly cultivated in wetland restoration projects, where it supports biodiversity and soil health. Its flexible stems are harvested for use in garden screening, basketry, and decorative items such as lampshades - offering an alternative to wood or plastic.

As a non-forest wood, willow is exempt from **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy for wood and paper sourcing.



Criteria:

Products where the main material is willow.

Main material is defined as comprising 50% or more of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Alternatives to conventional fertilisers

Seaweed

Seaweed is increasingly being used as a natural alternative to conventional fertilisers. Rich in nutrients and trace elements, it supports soil health and plant growth while meeting the standards of several organic gardening schemes.

Its use helps reduce reliance on synthetic inputs and contributes to more sustainable gardening practices.

Adding seaweed to the soil, whether as a fertiliser or soil improver, is also expected to reduce carbon emissions (including embodied and from land use) by substituting the fossil energy sources used in synthetic fertilisers.



Criteria:

Products that contain seaweed as a substitute for synthetic fertilisers.

Please note that the product should not contain any synthetic fertilisers.





Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.



Made From Alternative Materials Watch List

Products containing any of the following carbon intensive materials:

- > CEM I Cement.
- > Peat
 - An exception is made for plants where the growing media contains peat provided that work is in progress to replace the peat by end of 2025.
- > Specified fossil fuel derived materials
 - Bitumen.
 - Coal.
 - Oil based lubricants.
 - Petrol and diesel and products designed to be used with petrol or diesel.
 - Paraffin and kerosene and products designed to be used with paraffin and kerosine.



Made from Recycled Materials

Using recycled materials helps close the loop by turning waste into new products.

Increasing demand for recycled content can improve both the quantity and quality of recycling systems. However, recycling only mitigates the impact of waste - it does not eliminate it.

Reducing waste through reuse and choosing durable, long-lasting products are even more effective strategies. These are supported by the attribute **Extending Product Lifecycles**, which includes criteria aimed at reducing waste.

It's important to distinguish between “recycled” and “recyclable”:

- > Recycled materials are made from waste - typically post-consumer waste. In rare, specific cases, pre-consumer waste may also qualify, but this must be communicated carefully and in line with standards such as ISO 14021.
- > Recyclable refers to a product's ability to be recycled, regardless of whether it is made from virgin or recycled materials.

All recycled materials must meet legal and policy requirements, particularly regarding chemical safety. Ensuring that recycled content does not compromise product safety is essential. For further definitions and guidance, see **Appendix 1**.

Packaging is addressed through **Kingfisher's Sustainable Packaging Materials** policy, which aims to minimise the amount of packaging used. Where packaging is unavoidable, the policy promotes the use of reusable and recyclable materials, in line with circular economy principles. When applying the **Made from Recycled Materials** attribute as part of the **Sustainable Home Products** programme, it is the recycled content of the product itself that is assessed - not the packaging.

Switching to recycled materials must not compromise product standards, including safety. Verification schemes such as the **Global Recycled Standard (GRS)** - listed in **Appendix 2** - can help manufacturers demonstrate compliance with requirements for recycled content, labour practices, and chemical safety, particularly for recycled plastics.

Recycled content levels should be expressed as a percentage of the entire product by weight. For example, if a toolbox is made of 50% plastic, and that plastic contains 80% recycled post-consumer content, the recycled content for the whole product is 40% (i.e. 80% of 50%).

In most cases, the “main material” - the single largest material by weight - is assessed against the criteria for the **Made from Recycled Materials** attribute. There are two exceptions:

- > Cotton – Assessed separately due to its specific sustainability impacts.



There are **green star** criteria relating to this attribute and details are shown alongside the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.

- > **Mixed materials** – Where criteria are defined for combinations of materials (see **Mixed Materials** criteria section for details).

In addition to reducing waste, recycled materials often have a lower carbon footprint than comparable virgin raw materials, contributing to more sustainable product lifecycles.

Communicating recycled content

When a product contains recycled materials, this can usually be communicated on packaging and in customer-facing materials. However, the recycled content must be stated as a minimum level (e.g. “50% or more”), not as a maximum (e.g. “up to 50%”), to ensure clarity and avoid misleading claims.

The statement should:

- > Clearly indicate that the recycled content is post-consumer waste.
- > Express the recycled content as a percentage of the total product weight.
- > Specify whether the claim refers to the product or the packaging, to avoid confusion.

It is essential to check all relevant regulations and standards to ensure compliance with legal and policy requirements when making recycled content claims.



Contents for criteria in the **Made from Recycled Materials** attribute:

- > **Construction materials**
- > **Fabrics**
- > **Glass**
- > **Metals**
- > **Plastics**
- > **Wood, paper and board**
- > **Watch List criteria**



Made from Recycled Materials criteria

Construction materials

Aggregate

Recycled aggregate is produced by reprocessing materials that have previously been used in construction, such as concrete, bricks, asphalt, or stone. These materials are crushed and screened to create new aggregate that can be used in a variety of construction applications, including road base, concrete production, and landscaping.

Using recycled aggregate:

- > Reduces the demand for virgin materials.
- > Diverts construction and demolition waste from landfill.
- > Can lower the environmental footprint of construction projects.



Criteria:



Recycled aggregate: aggregate comprising minimum 75% recycled content, post-consumer waste.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Plaster

Gypsum, the primary ingredient in plaster and plasterboard, requires significant energy to dry during production. While plasterboard is technically recyclable, it is often challenging to manage as waste due to contamination and disposal regulations.

Incorporating waste plasterboard into new products can help make plasterboard recycling more viable by:

- > Reducing the need for virgin gypsum.
- > Diverting difficult-to-manage waste from landfill.
- > Lowering the environmental impact of production.





Criteria:



Recycled gypsum: products comprising minimum 90% or more recycled post-consumer waste gypsum.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Fabrics

Finding ways to address the waste from textiles is an environmental issue.

Cotton

Cotton production is resource-intensive, particularly in its use of water. Making better use of textile waste by incorporating recycled cotton helps reduce pressure on natural resources and supports more sustainable material cycles.

Please note that cotton is also covered under the **Responsible Sourcing** criteria, which address broader environmental and social impacts.

To meet the **Made from Recycled Materials** criteria, products must contain 20% or more recycled cotton by weight. The recycled content should be clearly documented and, where possible, verified through recognised standards.



Criteria:



Recycled cotton: products comprising minimum 20% recycled cotton, post-consumer waste.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Textiles

Textiles that have been reworked or repurposed for use in new products can help reduce waste and extend the life of valuable materials. These fabrics may be made from a mixture of different fibres, including both natural and synthetic materials.



Criteria:



Recycled textiles: products comprising minimum 80% mixed textiles, post-consumer waste.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Glass

Making glass from waste glass uses considerably less energy than making glass from virgin materials.

Glass Fibre

Recycled glass wool is often used in insulation products.



Criteria:



Products comprising 80% or more recycled post-consumer waste glass.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Metals

Brass

Brass is an alloy made primarily from copper and zinc. Recycling brass helps reduce the environmental impact of mining these raw materials and supports more circular use of metals.

For brass - as with all recycled metals - both pre-consumer and post-consumer waste are included when assessing recycled content.



Criteria:

Recycled brass: products comprising minimum 75% recycled brass.



Criteria:

Recycled brass: products comprising minimum 90% recycled brass.

Copper

Copper is a valuable resource, and making use of scrap copper helps reduce the need for environmentally intensive mining. Recycling copper supports circular material use and contributes to lower environmental impacts in manufacturing.

For copper - as with all recycled metals - both pre-consumer and post-consumer waste are included when assessing recycled content.

In addition, the **Copper Mark** (covered under the **Made with Responsibly Sourced Materials** criteria) can also be used to recognise responsibly sourced and recycled copper.



Criteria:

Recycled copper: products comprising minimum 75% recycled copper.



Criteria:

Recycled copper: products comprising minimum 75% recycled copper.

Plastics

Using recycled plastics helps divert waste from landfill and supports the development of a circular economy. Increased demand for recycled plastic makes recycling systems more viable and encourages innovation in material recovery. This applies to a wide range of plastic-derived products, including polyester.

To ensure safety and compliance, chemical safety must always be considered when switching to recycled plastics.

Using recycled plastic to create durable, long-lasting products helps keep materials in use for longer.

However, for single-use plastic products, it is important to explore reusable alternatives wherever possible. If a reusable alternative exists and can effectively replace a single-use plastic item, the product is **Watch Listed** under the **Extending Product Lifecycles** attribute.

There are regulatory and performance limitations on the use of recycled plastics in some product categories. In such cases, biobased plastics may be considered as an alternative to reduce reliance on virgin fossil-based materials.

The Global Recycled Standard (GRS) - listed in [Appendix 2](#) - is one example of a certification scheme that can verify recycled content, labour standards, and chemical safety for recycled plastics.



Criteria for recycled plastics

There are several criteria depending on:

- > The type of product.
- > The percentage of recycled plastic content.
- > The presence of third-party certification.

Due to potential environmental impacts, some plastic products cannot be assessed under the **Sustainable Home** criteria, even if they contain recycled content. These are **Watch Listed** and include examples such as:

- > Glitter.
- > Artificial grass.
- > Single-use roller tray liners.



Criteria:

All recycled plastic must be safe to use.

One of the following:

1. Products comprising 50% or more recycled post-consumer waste plastic calculated as the percentage of total product weight.
 - a. This includes polycotton fabrics. Please note that cotton should be responsibly sourced.

(continued over)



2. Products comprising 40% or more recycled post-consumer waste plastic if the product has **Global Recycle Standard certification** or an equivalent certification calculated as the percentage of total product weight.
3. Single-use products 90% or more recycled post-consumer waste plastic calculated as the percentage of total product weight.
 - a. Many single use products are **Watch Listed** and cannot be assessed for these criteria.

There is an additional higher-level criteria for products comprising 90% or more recycled post-consumer waste plastic (excluding single-use products) calculated as the percentage of total product weight.



Criteria:

One of the following:

1. Products comprising 60% or more recycled post-consumer waste plastic, excluding single-use products and textiles.
2. Workwear with the **Global Recycled Standard** (for the whole product) with minimum 50% or more recycled post-consumer waste plastic. Any cotton in the product should meet the same standards as for the **SHP** criteria for polycotton. Please note that the workwear **green star** requirements are positioned in the **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials** attribute.

Wood, paper and board

Using recycled wood, paper, and board helps reduce the demand for virgin forest resources and supports more circular material use. By making use of waste materials, these products contribute to reducing deforestation and the environmental impact of raw material extraction.

Recycled paper and board

Recycling paper and cardboard waste reduces the need to fell trees for pulp production while also diverting waste from landfill. As with all criteria under the **Made from Recycled Materials** attribute, the assessment applies to the product itself, not its packaging.



For more information on responsible sourcing of paper and board, please refer to **Kingfisher's Forest Positive** policy.



Criteria:

Recycled paper or board: products comprising minimum 95% recycled paper post-consumer - waste paper, board or card.





Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Recycled wood

Recycling wood helps extend the life of the carbon captured by forest trees, keeping it stored in products rather than releasing it into the atmosphere. When wood is burned, the stored carbon is released along with particulates that can contribute to air pollution.

In many countries, waste wood is increasingly being collected and recycled into new products. One common application is the production of manufactured boards, such as particle board and MDF, which are now often made using recycled wood instead of virgin timber.

Please note that wood-derived products intended for burning are **Watch Listed** under the **Extending Product Lifecycles** attribute due to their environmental and health impacts.

For more information on responsible sourcing of wood, please refer to **Kingfisher's Forest Positive** policy.



Criteria:



Recycled wood: Products comprising 70% or more recycled wood where wood forms 75% or more of the total product weight.

The wood should be one of:

1. Certified FSC® recycled:
 - FSC® recycled or FSC® MIX where the vendor confirms that the qualifying material is verified recycled post-consumer waste wood.
2. Certified PEFC recycled.



Criteria:

Wooden products that have wood as the main material that have full chain of custody for **FSC®** or **PEFC** (under the **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials** attribute).

Reused wood

Reusing wood helps extend the life of the carbon captured by forest trees, keeping it stored in products rather than releasing it into the atmosphere. Unlike recycling, reusing wood does not require remanufacturing, which means fewer resources are needed to keep the material in use.

Reused wood may come from sources such as reclaimed timber, old furniture, construction materials, or pallets, and can be repurposed for new applications with minimal processing.

Please note that wood-derived products intended for burning are **Watch Listed** under the **Extending Product Lifecycles** attribute due to their environmental and health impacts.



Criteria:

Reused wood: reused waste wood, e.g. offcuts from timber cutting services.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.



Made from Recycled Materials Watch List

Products containing any of the following carbon intensive materials:

- > Recycled plastic products where the source of the plastic is not known and/or cannot be confirmed as being safe.
- > Products where claims on the packaging may confuse or mislead customers about the recycled content of a product.



Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials

Responsible sourcing addresses the environmental and ethical impacts associated with a product's raw materials and manufacturing processes.

Kingfisher has been a pioneer in this area - B&Q was a founding partner of the **Forest Stewardship Council** (FSC) in 1995, recognising the importance of credible certification in tackling deforestation. Ensuring that all wood and wood-derived products sold by Kingfisher banners are responsibly sourced has been a long-standing priority.

Today, a wide range of responsible sourcing programmes cover diverse materials and products. These include:

- > Material-specific schemes (e.g. **FSC** for wood, **Copper Mark** for copper).
- > Organic and agricultural certifications.
- > Ethical sourcing standards.
- > Circular economy schemes.

A full list of recognised third-party schemes is provided in [Appendix 2](#).

Many recognised schemes require the entire product to meet their standards.

Use of third-party intellectual property:

Using third-party intellectual property (such as logos) may require permission and adherence to specific usage guidelines. For example, when communicating **FSC** certification, colleagues must consult **Kingfisher Offer & Sourcing Sustainability's** Wood and Paper team for guidance and sign-off.

Assessment criteria

In most cases, the main material (i.e. the single largest material by weight) is assessed. For products made from a combination of materials, refer to the [Mixed Materials Criteria section](#).

Watch List consideration:

If a product qualifies under a responsible sourcing scheme but is **Watch Listed** under another attribute, it cannot be assessed for the **Sustainable Home Programme**.

Example: Charcoal with full **FSC** chain of custody cannot be assessed because it is **Watch Listed** under Protecting Health.



There are **green star** criteria relating to this attribute and details are shown alongside the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.



Contents for criteria in the Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials attribute:

- > [Type 1 Eco labels](#)
- > [Agricultural schemes](#)
- > [Biobased materials and plastics](#)
- > [Circular economy schemes](#)
- > [Ethical sourcings schemes](#)
- > [Organic standards](#)
- > [Standards specialising in a single material or group of materials](#)
- > [Watch List criteria](#)



Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials criteria

Type 1 Eco labels

Type I eco-labels are robust voluntary certification schemes that adhere to the **ISO 14024** standard. These labels:

- > Are based on multi-criteria assessments across the product's entire lifecycle.
- > Require third-party verification, typically through audits and/or product testing.
- > Apply to the whole product, not just individual components or materials.

These labels are recognised under the **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials** attribute due to their comprehensive approach to environmental and social responsibility.

Type 1 Eco labels

For detailed information on each scheme - including scope, criteria, and verification requirements - please refer to the scheme's official website.

Please note that these labels apply to the whole product.





Criteria:



Labels recognised:

- > **Der Blaue Engel (also known as Blue Angel)**
- > **EU Eco label**
- > **NF Environnement NEW**
- > **Nordic Swan Eco label**
- > **Türkiye Çevre Etiketi**



Criteria:

Labels recognised:

- > **Der Blaue Engel (also known as Blue Angel)**
- > **EU Eco label**
- > **Nordic Swan Eco label**

Agricultural schemes

Although Kingfisher is not a food retailer, some products - such as Christmas trees - are produced through farming. Agricultural schemes are also relevant to the horticulture industry, where responsible farming practices can support sustainability goals.

These schemes may cover aspects such as:

- > Soil and water management.
- > Use of chemicals.
- > Biodiversity protection.
- > Ethical labour practices.

Agricultural schemes

For detailed information on each scheme - including scope, criteria, and verification requirements - please refer to the scheme's official website.



Criteria:



Agricultural third party schemes recognised:

- > **Global Good Agricultural Practice (Global G.A.P.)**
- > **MPS-ABC**
- > **Plante Bleue**



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Biobased materials and plastics

Biobased materials are increasingly being explored as alternatives to fossil fuel-derived resins, binders, fuels, and plastics. In many cases, they can significantly reduce the carbon footprint of materials and support the transition to a more sustainable, circular economy.

However, concerns have been raised about the land use impacts of biobased materials—particularly when they are derived from land linked to deforestation or land that could otherwise be used for food production.



These criteria have been developed with reference to the [EU policy framework on biobased, biodegradable, and compostable plastics \(2022\)](#) and other relevant sources.

Biobased plastic is a viable option for plastic products where recycled content cannot be used due to regulatory, safety, or performance constraints. It offers a lower-impact alternative to virgin fossil-based plastic.

Note on mass-balance approach:

Some products use a mass-balance approach, where a small proportion of biobased material (e.g. 10%) is mixed with fossil-based materials, and the same proportion of finished products is claimed to be biobased (e.g. 1 in 10).

While this approach supports broader uptake of biobased inputs, it is not eligible under these criteria, as it does not allow for reliable assessment of individual products.

Biobased materials and plastics – schemes

A number of third-party schemes exist to verify the sustainability and traceability of biobased materials.

For detailed information on each scheme - including scope, criteria, and verification requirements - please refer to the scheme's official website.



SHP Criteria:

Biobased materials: Biobased materials that are certified by one of the following schemes.

- > [**DIN-Geprüft Biobased**](#)
- > [**USDA Biopreferred**](#)
- > [**OK Biobased**](#)
- > [**Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials \(RSB\)**](#)

(continued over)



Please note the additional criteria for biobased plastics:

- > Biobased feedstock is used only where the option to use recycled plastic feedstock is not possible (e.g. in applications where a transparent plastic is needed).
- > The product has had its biobased content measured according to ASTM D6866, CEN/TS 16137, ISO 16620 or an equivalent method.
- > Plastic used in the final product must have a biobased content of $\geq 50\%$, demonstrated by:
 - Independent third-party verification.
 - **DIN Geprüft Biobased** certification.
 - **OK Biobased** certification.
 - **Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB)** certification.
 - The end product must be recyclable within existing recycling streams.
- > Eligible plastics include biobased PE, PP, PET, ABS.
- > The material must demonstrate that it has lower life cycle GHG emissions than the fossil-based equivalent material, through standard assessment methods (ISO 14067 or equivalent).
- > Durability and circularity has been considered in the product's design (e.g. spare parts available to mitigate premature end-of-life, recyclability, long warranty or achievement of a quality standard).
- > Feedstock must be 2nd generation or 3rd generation.
- > Responsible sourcing is demonstrated by one of the following:
 - **RSB** certification.
 - **ISCC Plus** certification.



Criteria:

Only biobased plastics are in scope and the criteria are the same as for **Sustainable Home Products**, except the limit is 60% for bio-based plastic content.

Circular economy schemes

Our approach aligns with circular economy principles - designing out waste, keeping materials in use, and regenerating natural systems. This means moving away from the traditional extract-make-use-dispose model toward smarter, more sustainable resource use.

Circular economy certification schemes

These schemes evaluate the full lifecycle of a product, including material health, pollution impact, and recyclability. They help ensure that products meet high standards for sustainability and circularity.

Circular economy schemes criteria

Please refer to each scheme's official website for detailed information on scope, criteria, and certification requirements.

These certifications apply to the entire product, not just individual components.





Criteria:



Products that have one of the following labels from the **Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute**:

- > **Cradle to Cradle** certified at bronze or better.
- > Higher criteria: **Cradle to Cradle** certified at silver or better.
- > **Cradle to Cradle Material Health** certified.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Ethical sourcing schemes

At Kingfisher, every product must meet strict ethical sourcing standards, as outlined in our company policy. These standards ensure that materials are sourced responsibly, with respect for human rights, fair labour practices, and community well-being.

The certification schemes listed below uphold high ethical standards and often work directly with local communities to promote sustainable livelihoods and positive social impact.

Ethical sourcing schemes criteria

For detailed information on each scheme's scope, requirements, and certification process, please visit the respective scheme's official website.

Please note: these certifications apply to the entire product, not just individual components.



Criteria:

Products that are certified by one of the following:

- > **Fair Trade Mark** (Fair Trade Foundation)
- > **Good Weave**



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Organic standards

Organic farming promotes the use of natural substances and processes, supporting healthier ecosystems and reducing reliance on synthetic chemicals. While many customers associate organic certification with food, it also applies to non-food crops - such as cotton.

Conventional cotton farming is resource-intensive, often requiring large amounts of water, fertilisers, and pesticides. In fact, the Soil Association estimates that conventional cotton accounts for 16% of global insecticide use.



In contrast, organic cotton farming focuses on improving soil health, which can enhance drought resilience and reduce water usage.

Organic standards also apply to other textile fibres, plants, and products beyond cotton. These standards help ensure that materials are grown and processed in ways that protect biodiversity and human health.

Organic standards criteria

For a product to meet organic criteria, the certified material must be the main material by weight, making up at least 50% of the total product weight.

Organic certifications may also appear under the **Supporting Biodiversity at Home** category when used to verify products containing chemicals approved for organic farming or gardening. For these products, the organic certification relates to application as opposed to the output material.

For full details on scope, requirements, and certification processes, please visit the relevant scheme's official website.



SHP Criteria:

Products that are certified by one of the following:

- > **Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)**
- > **Organic 100 Content Standard (OCS)**
- > **Soil Association Approved**
- > **EU Organic labels**
- > **Agriculture Biologique**
- > **Oeko-TEX® Organic Cotton**



Criteria:

Products that are certified by one of the following:

- > **Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)**
- > **Organic 100 Content Standard (OCS)**

(continued over)

- > [Soil Association Approved](#)
- > [EU Organic labels](#)
- > [Agriculture Biologique](#)
- > [Oeko-TEX® Organic Cotton](#)

Standards specialising in a single material or group of materials

Many responsible sourcing schemes focus on a single material or a specific group of materials - such as wood, cotton, or metals. These specialised standards ensure that the sourcing and production of these materials meet rigorous environmental and ethical criteria.

When a standard applies to a particular material, that material must be the main component by weight, making up at least 50% of the total weight of the product.



Composite materials

Composite materials are typically made from a mix of recycled plastics and organic fibres - such as rice husks or wood dust. These materials are durable, moisture-resistant, and require no additional treatment once installed. Their use of recycled content is a positive sustainability attribute.

However, lifecycle analysis has shown that composite materials often have a higher carbon footprint than traditional wood. As a result, a higher sustainability threshold has been set for these products under the **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines.

To meet the criteria:

- > At least 85% of the product's materials by weight must be positively defined - this includes recycled plastics and fibres that meet the guidelines.
- > The fibre component may be an alternative material (e.g., rice husks) or wood that complies with **Kingfisher's Forest Positive** policy.
- > For composite decking, where the largest component is usually the organic fibre, these products are assessed under the **Made Using Responsibly Sourced Materials** attribute.

In some cases, composite products include other materials (e.g., fittings or coatings), which may reduce the proportion of qualifying materials. In such cases, the threshold has been adjusted to 75% of the product's total weight.

Additionally, all composite products must conform to EN 15534, the European standard for wood-plastic composites.



Criteria:



75% of the product's materials (by weight) should be a combination of recycled plastic (post consumer waste) and fibres meeting **Sustainable Home Product** criteria.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Cotton responsible sourcing criteria

In addition to organic certifications, Kingfisher also recognises the **Better Cotton Initiative** (BCI) - a global programme that promotes better standards in cotton farming, focusing on environmental, social, and economic sustainability.

For products made with polycotton (a blend of cotton and synthetic fibres), the recycled plastic content is assessed under the **Recycled Plastics** criteria because polyester comprises a higher proportion of the fabric than cotton.

For full details on scope, requirements, and certification processes, please refer to the **BCI** official website.



Criteria:



Products containing cotton sourced following requirements of the **Better Cotton Initiative**. The product should comprise 50% or more cotton by weight.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Construction materials responsible sourcing criteria

BES 6001, developed by the **Building Research Establishment** (BRE), is a globally recognised certification for the responsible sourcing of construction products. It assesses a manufacturer's supply chain management, environmental performance, and social responsibility practices.

For detailed information on the scope, requirements, and certification process, please visit the official website of the scheme.



SHP Criteria:

Products meeting one of the following standards or where the main material (by weight, i.e. 50% or more) meets one of the following standards:

- > **BES6001** at “Good” level or better (**Building Research Establishment**) – building materials.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Metals – responsible sourcing criteria

Responsible sourcing schemes developed by the **Copper Mark** address the environmental and social impacts of metal production, including mining practices. These schemes also recognise the value of using recycled metals as part of a more sustainable supply chain.

For full details on scope, requirements, and certification processes, please visit the official website of each scheme.



Additional criteria for metals

- > Recycled copper and brass are assessed under the **Made from Recycled Materials** attribute.
- > Steel and aluminium may be certified through third-party schemes under the **Made from Lower Impact Manufacturing** attribute.



SHP Criteria:



Products meeting one of the following standards:

- > **Copper Mark** - product should comprise 80% or more copper by weight and that copper should have the **Copper Mark**.
- > **Zinc Mark** - product should comprise 80% or more zinc by weight and that zinc should have the **Zinc Mark**.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Wood, paper, cork, rubber, bamboo and other forest related products: responsible sourcing criteria

Products made from forest-based materials - such as wood, paper, cork, rubber, and bamboo - must contain at least 50% of the specified material by weight to meet responsible sourcing criteria. Certification ensures that these materials are sourced in ways that protect forests, biodiversity, and the rights of local communities.

Some of the recognised schemes also apply to recycled wood and paper, which are assessed under the **Made from Recycled Materials** attribute.

For full details on scope, requirements, and certification processes, please visit the official website of each scheme.



Internal Guidance

Kingfisher colleagues should consult the **Offer & Sourcing Sustainability** – Wood and Paper team for clarification on requirements and to obtain sign-off where needed.



SHP Criteria:



Products meeting one of the following standards or where the main material (by weight, 50% or more) meets one of the following standards:

- > **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) Chain of Custody Certification**
 - Summary of scope: wood, paper, board, bamboo, cork, rubber, viscose, cellulose.
- > **Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), Chain of Custody Certification**
 - Summary of scope: wood, paper, board, bamboo, cork, cellulose.



Criteria:

Products where the main material has full chain of custody with either **FSC®** or **PEFC**. Treated wood is excluded from this green star criteria. MDF cannot be included as the main material.

Wool

The Responsible Wool Standard (RWS), developed by **Textile Exchange**, promotes better welfare for sheep and improved land management practices in wool production. It ensures that wool comes from farms with a progressive approach to animal welfare and sustainable land use.

For full details on scope, requirements, and certification processes, please visit the official website of the scheme.



Criteria:

Products meeting the **Responsible Wool Standard** where the main material (by weight) is wool.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.



Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials Watch List

- > Materials that can be linked to deforestation unless responsibly sourced (see relevant criteria):
 - Wood, paper, cardboard.
 - Plant oils, including palm oil.
 - Rubber.
 - Leather (should be from a source that meets the Gold standard for the **Leather Working Group**).
- > Biobased materials, including resins, binders, bioplastics and biofuels unless responsibly sourced as specified in the criteria for **Biobased Materials**.
- > Cotton unless recycled, organic or sourced through a responsible sourcing scheme.



Made using Lower Impact Manufacture

Manufacturing can be resource-intensive, consuming large amounts of energy and water, and releasing pollutants into the environment through air and water systems.

This **Sustainable Home Product** attribute recognises products made by manufacturers who have taken steps to reduce their environmental impact. This includes actions such as improving energy efficiency, switching to renewable power, and designing products that require fewer resources.

We also consider how product design contributes to sustainability - for example, through lightweighting or modular construction that reduces material use.

To qualify for this attribute, manufacturers must demonstrate efforts in one or more of the following areas:

- > Reducing carbon emissions from energy-intensive production processes.
- > Improving water stewardship and reducing water usage.
- > Minimising pollutants released during manufacturing.
- > Lowering embodied carbon in materials used.
- > Designing smarter products that use fewer resources without compromising performance.



There are **green star** criteria relating to this attribute and details are shown alongside the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.

Additional Requirements:

- > Products must comply with all relevant group policies and must not appear on any attribute's **Watch List**.
- > If a material qualifies under this attribute, it must make up at least 50% of the product's total weight.
- > If a factory meets the criteria, there must be clear evidence that the product was manufactured there.



Contents for Criteria in the Made using Lower Impact Manufacturing attribute:

- > [Schemes for manufacturers and factories](#)
- > [Criteria for specific products, production methods and materials](#)
- > [Lowering impact through design](#)



Made using Lower Impact Manufacture criteria

Schemes for manufacturers and factories

These criteria recognise the progress many companies are making toward achieving net zero, aligning with Kingfisher's carbon reduction targets.

Important: These criteria apply to the manufacturing site. If a product is supplied by a company that only distributes or re-packs it, the assessment should be based on the original manufacturer further up the value chain.



Low Carbon Manufacturing programme

The **Low Carbon Manufacturing programme**, developed by **WWF Hong Kong**, supports factories in improving energy efficiency and tracking progress against defined environmental standards. It provides a structured approach to monitoring, measuring, and reducing carbon emissions in manufacturing operations.

This criterion can be applied to factories where manufacturing takes place, it excludes distributors and re-packers.



Criteria:



Products made at a manufacturing site that participates with the **Low Carbon Manufacturing Programme (World Wildlife Fund, Hong Kong)** at bronze level or better.

For every product included, it should be demonstrable that a significant proportion of the product's impact comes from the manufacturing site participating in **Low Carbon Manufacturing programme**. Distributors, wholesalers and re-packers are not included.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Criteria for specific products, production methods and materials

Dope dyeing

Dope dyeing is an innovative textile colouring method that significantly reduces environmental impact compared to conventional dyeing. It uses less water and fewer chemicals, as the colour is added to the fibre during the spinning process rather than after the fabric is made.

To qualify under this criterion, the dope-dyed textile must comprise at least 50% of the product's total weight.



Criteria:

The dope-dyed textile should comprise at least 50% of the product's total weight. The supplier must be able to demonstrate a documented policy on water and wastewater management and reduction.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Cement and concrete

Cement is estimated to contribute **approximately 8% of global CO₂e emissions**, primarily due to the production of clinker, its key ingredient. Emissions can be reduced through the use of clinker alternatives and energy efficiency measures during manufacturing.

Concrete, which relies heavily on cement, shares a similar environmental footprint. Therefore, the criteria for both materials are aligned and based on the level of embodied carbon.





Criteria:



Cement (dry product only) with embodied carbon below 0.55 kg CO₂e/kg cement, evidence to be supplied as an **Environmental Product Declaration**.

Higher criteria: Cement (dry product only) with embodied carbon below 0.45 kg CO₂e/kg cement, evidence to be supplied as an **Environmental Product Declaration**.

Concrete (preset concrete and ready mixed dry bagged products) of the specified strength class grade that have an embodied carbon (A1-A3, cradle-to-gate) less than or equal to the limits in the table in **Appendix 7**.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Ceramic tiles

Producing ceramic tiles is energy-intensive, primarily due to the high temperatures required to fire clay.

Life Cycle Analysis confirms that firing is one of the largest contributors to the carbon footprint of ceramic products.

To address these impacts, **ISO 17889-1:2021 Ceramic tiling systems - Sustainability for ceramic tiles and installation materials - Part 1: Specification for ceramic tiles** evaluates multiple sustainability aspects, including:

- > Firing efficiency.
- > Water pollution.
- > Use of chemicals.
- > Social impact.

Eco labels: In addition to **ISO** standards, several eco labels recognised under the **Responsible Sourcing** attribute of the **Sustainable Home Product** guidelines also address the environmental impact of ceramic tile production. These include:

- > The **EU Ecolabel**.
- > The **Turkish Eco** label.



Criteria:



Ceramic tiles made to the standard **ISO 17889-1:2021 Ceramic tiling systems - Sustainability for ceramic tiles and installation materials - Part 1: Specification for ceramic tiles**.



Criteria:

Ceramic tiles made to the standard **ISO 17889-1:2021 Ceramic tiling systems - Sustainability for ceramic tiles and installation materials - Part 1: Specification for ceramic tiles.**

Metals

The extraction and processing of metals can result in high levels of carbon emissions. To address this, the criteria for metals focus on embodied carbon, which must be evidenced through one of the following:

Accepted forms of verification:

- > **EPD** (Environmental Product Declaration) – externally verified.
- > **PCF** (Product Carbon Footprint) – externally verified.
- > Certification by a third-party organisation, government body, or independent auditor, published in line with **ISO 14067** or equivalent.

Recognised third-party organisations include:

- > **Aluminium Stewardship Initiative** (ASI).
- > **Responsible Steel.**
- > **TÜV Rheinland.**
- > **SGS.**
- > **Intertek.**
- > **TÜV SÜD.**
- > **TÜV Nord.**

Evidence of supply chain linkage:

To ensure traceability, vendors must provide documentation linking the certified metal supplier to the manufacturer or assembler of the product. Acceptable forms of evidence include:

- > **MTC** (Material Test Certificate) showing both the supplier's and Kingfisher vendor's names.
- > Certification or verification of recycled content, embodied carbon, or responsible sourcing.
- > Purchase invoice confirming the vendor bought raw metals from a certified supplier.
- > Delivery note confirming the vendor received metals from a certified supplier.

If a vendor uses multiple metal suppliers, a self-declaration is required to confirm that the nominated products are manufactured using the specified sustainable metals.



Aluminium

The **Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI)** estimates that the aluminium sector contributes around 2% of global CO₂ emissions. **ASI** certification encourages:

- > Use of recycled aluminium.
- > Adoption of renewable energy.
- > Implementation of energy efficiency measures.
- > Reduction of embodied carbon in aluminium production.



Criteria:



Aluminium should comprise 50% or more of the product's weight and: > Have Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission intensity calculated as cradle to factory gate tonnes CO₂e per tonne of aluminium to be ≤11 tCO₂e/t. Kingfisher can advise on the evidence required.

Higher criteria: **Aluminium Stewardship Initiative** Performance Standard certification. Please note that this should be in addition to meeting the Standard criteria.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Steel

In 2018, steel production was estimated to account for approximately 8% of global carbon dioxide emissions. This significant environmental impact can be mitigated through several key strategies:

- > Incorporating recycled metal, such as scrap steel, into production.
- > Using renewable energy sources to power manufacturing processes.
- > Selecting lower-impact furnace types, such as electric arc furnaces (EAF), which typically have a smaller carbon footprint compared to traditional blast furnaces.



These factors contribute to reducing the embodied carbon of steel and are considered in the assessment of sustainable steel sourcing.



Criteria:



Steel should comprise 50% or more of the product's weight and: > Have Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission intensity calculated as cradle to factory gate tonnes CO₂e per tonne of steel to be ≤ 1.6 tCO₂e/t. Kingfisher can advise on the evidence required.

Higher criteria: Responsible Steel International Production Standard certification. Please note that this should be in addition to meeting the Standard criteria.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Stainless steel

Stainless steel typically has a higher carbon footprint than mild steel, primarily due to:

- > More energy-intensive processing during production.
- > The inclusion of alloying elements such as chromium, nickel, and molybdenum, which require additional energy and resources to extract and refine.

These factors contribute to the increased embodied carbon of stainless steel, and should be considered when assessing the sustainability of products that use it.



Criteria:



Stainless steel should comprise 50% or more of the product's weight and: > Have Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission intensity calculated as cradle to factory gate tonnes CO₂e per tonne of steel to be ≤ 3 tCO₂e/t. Kingfisher can advise on the evidence required.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Lowering impact through design

Bare cordless tools sold as part of a modular range

When evaluating the life cycle of a cordless drill, Kingfisher identified that the battery and charger are significant contributors to the product's upstream carbon footprint.

To address this, designing a modular cordless tool range - where a single battery and charger can be shared across multiple tools - can significantly reduce the embodied carbon of the entire range.



Criteria:



Cordless tools sold without a battery or charger ("bare" or "naked") where it forms part of a modular range using the same battery.



Criteria:

Cordless tools sold without a battery or charger ("bare" or "naked") where it forms part of a modular range using the same battery. These criteria are under the attribute **Extending Product Lifecycles** for **green star**.



Protecting Health at Home

This attribute supports products and solutions that help customers create safer and healthier home and garden environments.

- > Reducing exposure to harmful chemicals, including air pollution.
- > Enabling independent and active living.
- > Home safety.

Reducing harmful chemicals

Reducing chemical exposure can be achieved by:

- > Substituting harmful chemicals with safer alternatives.
- > Using alternative approaches that eliminate the need for chemicals altogether.

Example: A mosquito screen prevents insects from entering the home without the use of insecticides, offering a safer alternative to chemical repellents while achieving the same health benefit - fewer bites and reduced risk of disease.

Air quality and health

Air quality is increasingly linked to health outcomes.

This attribute considers both harmful and beneficial product impacts:

The **Watch List** includes products associated with poor air quality, such as:

- > Logs for burning
- > Solvent-based paints and cleaners

Positive examples include:

- > Water-based paints.
- > Carbon monoxide alarms.
- > Accessories for charging electric vehicles.

Inclusive and Independent Living

Designing homes to be accessible and inclusive supports social inclusion and independent living.

Example: A bathroom designed for universal access allows all household members, including those with limited mobility, to use it confidently and safely.

Home Safety

Many aspects of home safety link to inclusive and independent living. This attribute also addresses fire safety and protecting homes from flooding.



For **green star**, the scope of this attribute has been limited to chemical safety.



Contents for Criteria in the Protecting Health at Home attribute:

- > [Acoustic insulation](#)
- > [Air pollution](#)
- > [Chemical safety](#)
- > [Active and independent living](#)
- > [Home safety](#)
- > [Watch List](#)



Protecting Health at Home criteria

Acoustic insulation

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** recognises that excessive noise can negatively impact human health, contributing to issues such as:

- > Disturbed sleep.
- > Increased stress.
- > Annoyance-related health effects.

Acoustic insulation criteria

These criteria focus specifically on acoustic insulation between rooms, helping to:

- > Improve comfort and wellbeing within the home.
- > Reduce noise transfer in multi-occupancy or high-activity households.
- > Support better sleep and concentration, especially in bedrooms, home offices, and shared living spaces.



SHP Criteria:

Underlay and floor insulation designed to absorb impact noise:

- > Should be assessed for impact noise (minimum 20dB of acoustic insulation). Insulation for walls designed to absorb noise.
- > Should be assessed for airborne noise (minimum 20dB of acoustic insulation).

Products accredited with the **Quiet Mark**.

Anti-vibration mats for washing machines.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Air pollution

The **United Nations Environment Programme** estimates that **9 out of 10 people globally breathe air that exceeds World Health Organization (WHO) limits for pollutants**. In recent years, research has deepened our understanding of the health impacts of air pollution - particularly from fine particulate matter (PM2.5).

While public measures such as smoke-free zones have helped reduce exposure outdoors, there are also important actions we can take inside our homes and gardens.



Sources of air pollution

Many home improvement products and everyday activities can negatively affect air quality, including:

- > Furniture, carpets, and particle board – may release formaldehyde.
- > Solvent-based paints and cleaners – emit high levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs).
- > Burning fuels – such as candles, coal, gas, and charcoal, release particulates.
- > Petrol-powered tools – emit pollutants including nitrous oxides.

Studies suggest that indoor air quality may pose a greater health risk than outdoor air pollution, especially given the amount of time people spend indoors.

Detecting air pollution

Carbon monoxide (CO) detectors are essential in every home.

CO is a colourless, odourless, and potentially deadly gas produced by:

- > Faulty gas appliances.
- > Incomplete combustion from sources like log burners.

Installing CO alarms and choosing low-emission products can significantly help to reduce health risks.



Criteria:

Carbon monoxide alarms and detectors, gas detectors.

- > Please note that although most products supplied with disposable batteries are **Watch Listed**, an exception is made for gas, smoke and CO detectors and alarms if the manufacturer specifies single-use batteries for reasons of product effectiveness.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Formaldehyde

Formaldehyde is a chemical commonly used in adhesives, resins, and binders, and is often found in products such as:

- > Furniture.
- > Flooring.
- > Composite wood products.

These products can emit formaldehyde into indoor air over time, contributing to poor air quality.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classifies formaldehyde as a known human carcinogen. People with asthma, allergies, or other respiratory conditions may be more sensitive to formaldehyde exposure.



Criteria:

Products certified to **CARB2** or achieving European **E0.5** level for formaldehyde emissions.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are a broad class of air pollutants that can be released from many everyday products, including:

- > Paints and solvents.
- > Household cleaning chemicals.
- > Air fresheners.
- > Personal care products.

These compounds contribute to indoor air pollution and can affect human health, especially in enclosed spaces.



VOCs in paints

Historically, most paints were solvent-based, which:

- > Released high levels of VOCs (responsible for the strong “paint smell”).
- > Required toxic solvents for cleaning brushes and thinning.

Modern innovation has led to the development of effective water-based paints, which:

- > Significantly reduce VOC emissions.
- > Eliminate the need for toxic solvents.
- > Are now available for almost all paint applications

Switching to water-based paints is a simple yet impactful way to improve indoor air quality and reduce exposure to harmful chemicals.



Criteria:

Water based alternatives to solvent based paints, wood treatments, primers, varnishes.

Water-based non-toxic alternatives to white spirit.

Higher criteria: Products meeting specified volatile organic compound standards where a product would typically be expected to release VOCs into the environment:

- > “Minimal” content based on **UK globe VOC labelling** (BCF) or A+ emissions based on mandatory French VOC labelling.
- > “Trace” content based on **UK globe VOC labelling** (BCF).



Criteria:

Paints and coatings with the “Trace” VOC rating based on **UK globe VOC labelling** (BCF).

Barbecues

Charcoal barbecues release particulate pollution when burned, contributing to poor air quality and potential health risks - especially in enclosed or densely populated outdoor spaces.

To reduce air pollution from outdoor cooking, consider switching to:

- > Electric barbecues – produce no direct emissions.
- > Gas barbecues – emit fewer particulates than charcoal.
- > Planchas – flat-top grills that reduce pollutants by preventing direct contact between food and flames.

These alternatives not only help protect air quality but also offer greater control over cooking temperature and reduce the risk of flare-ups.





Criteria:



Alternatives to charcoal burning barbecues:

- > Electric barbecues.
- > Gas barbecues.
- > Plancha barbecues and plancha barbecue accessories.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Electric vehicles

Switching from a petrol or diesel vehicle to an electric vehicle (EV) can significantly reduce air pollution in your neighbourhood.

EVs produce no tailpipe emissions, helping to lower levels of:

- > Nitrogen oxides (NO_x).
- > Particulate matter (PM).
- > Carbon monoxide (CO).

This contributes to cleaner air, especially in urban areas, and supports broader efforts to improve public health and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Criteria:

Charging cables and accessories for electric vehicles.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Extractor fans

Using an extractor fan in areas with high humidity - such as bathrooms and kitchens- can help to:

- > Improve indoor air circulation.
- > Reduce moisture build-up.
- > Lower the risk of mould and mildew, which can negatively affect both health and building materials.

Proper ventilation is especially important for maintaining healthy indoor air quality and preventing respiratory issues linked to damp environments.



Criteria:

Extractor fans with integrated humidistats or over-run timers.

Please note that if the unit is over 30 watts, it should be B rated or better for energy efficiency.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Cooker hoods

Using a cooker hood while cooking helps to:

- > Extract particulate pollutants released during frying, grilling, or boiling.
- > Reduce humidity, which can contribute to condensation and mould.
- > Improve indoor air quality, especially in enclosed kitchens.

Tip: Use the hob rings closest to the wall - this positions pans nearer to the cooker hood's extraction point, improving its effectiveness.



Criteria:

Cooker hoods. Please note that these should also be A rated or better for energy efficiency ([linking to the Saving Energy at Home criteria for kitchen appliances](#)).

Replacement filters for cooker hoods. If a cooker hood's replaceable filter becomes saturated with grease, it will not work as effectively.



Criteria:

Cooker hoods are included that have an energy label rating of A+ or better but under the **Saving Energy at Home** attribute.

Dehumidifiers

Dehumidifiers help to reduce excess moisture in the air, which can:

- > Prevent condensation on windows and walls.
- > Lower the risk of damp and mould developing.
- > Improve indoor air quality and reduce potential health issues, especially for people with respiratory conditions.

Using a dehumidifier is particularly beneficial in poorly ventilated areas or during colder months when windows are less likely to be opened.



Criteria:

Dehumidifiers that have an operating capacity of 35 litres or less per day or less and where energy efficiency (litres per kilowatt hour) is 2 or more and fitted with a humidistat.

Dehumidifiers that have an operating capacity of 35 to 87 litres per day or less and where energy efficiency (litres per kilowatt hour) is 2.8 or more and fitted with a humidistat.

Please note that single use chemical dehumidifiers are not included.



Criteria:

Dehumidifiers meeting the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.

Wood powered boilers, heaters and stoves

Most products linked to wood burning are currently placed on the **Watch List** due to growing concerns about the health impacts of air pollution, particularly from particulate emissions.

However, in France, the government-supported grant scheme **MaPrimeRénov'** includes wood-burning heating systems as part of energy-saving home renovations. This reflects a nuanced position that recognises both the energy efficiency potential and the environmental concerns of wood-based heating.

To align with this position, the following criteria have been developed based on:

- > **The Flamme Verte standard.**
- > The 2022 EcoDesign requirements.

These standards aim to ensure that wood-burning products:

- > Meet high efficiency thresholds.
- > Emit lower levels of pollutants.
- > Are designed to minimise their impact on indoor and outdoor air quality.



Criteria:

Only to be applied to products sold in France.

- > Log burning stoves must meet the **Flamme Verte** standard and the following:
 - Efficiency 72% or higher.
 - CO₂ emissions: 1200 or lower mg/m³.
 - NO_x emissions: 160 or lower mg/m³.
 - PM emissions: 32 or lower mg/m³.
 - VOC emissions: 96 or lower mg/m³.
 - PM+VOC emissions: 120 or lower mg/m³.
- > Pellet Stoves must meet the **Flamme Verte** standard and the following:
 - Efficiency 87% or higher.
 - CO₂e emissions: 240 or lower mg/m³.
 - NO_x emissions: 160 or lower mg/m³.
 - PM emissions: 16 or lower mg/m³.
 - VOC emissions: 48 or lower mg/m³.
 - PM+VOC emissions: 56 or lower mg/m³.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Chemical safety

Many decorating and household products contain hazardous chemicals, as indicated by safety labels. These substances can pose risks to:

- > People using the products.
- > Workers involved in manufacturing.
- > Communities near production sites, especially if pollution occurs.

Chemicals are also widely used in the production of goods, including:

- > Textiles.
- > Furniture.
- > Flooring.
- > Cleaning products.

Hazardous substances may remain in finished products, posing long-term exposure risks. Responsible sourcing and manufacturing practices help reduce these impacts.

Alternatives to potentially toxic chemical products

Switching to less hazardous products can make homes safer. In some cases, it's even possible to avoid chemicals altogether by choosing alternative solutions.

Example: Instead of using a chemical drain cleaner, drain rods or sink plungers can be safer and effective alternatives.



Criteria:



Alternatives to corrosive drain cleaning chemicals, including sink/basin/shower strainers, sink plungers.

Alternatives to insecticides: mosquito screens and nets.

Non-toxic household, garden and decorating chemical products where the product would typically be expected to contain toxic chemicals.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Specified third party chemical safety schemes

These are independent certification schemes that assess and test products or materials to ensure they do not contain harmful chemicals. They provide assurance that products meet strict safety and environmental standards. These are also listed in [Appendix 2](#).

Note: Many of these schemes certify entire products, but if only a material component is certified, it must make up 50% or more of the product's total weight to qualify under this attribute.



Always refer to the official website of each scheme for detailed information on scope, requirements, and certification processes. Use of third-party intellectual property (e.g. logos) may require permission and compliance with the scheme's branding and usage guidelines.

The following third party schemes are listed under the attribute **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials** but also have chemical requirements:

- > **Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute.**
- > **EU Eco label.**
- > **NF Environnement.**
- > **Nordic Swan** (also known as **Nordic Ecolabel**).
- > **Der Blaue Engel** (also known as **Blue Angel**).
- > Organic sourcing schemes (including **OEKO-TEX® Organic Cotton**).



SHP Criteria:



Please note that using the intellectual property of a third party (including logos) may require permission and adhering to that third party's requirements.

- > **bluesign® standard.**
- > **EMICODE® EC1+.**
- > **Greenguard.**
- > Products certified with one or more of the following labels:
 - **OEKO-TEX® Standard 100.**
 - **OEKO-TEX® Made in Green.**
 - **EcoCert Ecodetergents** (cleaning products).
 - **Green Seal.**
 - **natureplus®.**
 - **TCO Certified.**



Criteria:

EMICODE® EC1+.

Specified chemical products that do not contain unwanted chemicals

This criterion is based on independent research commissioned by Kingfisher to assess the availability of products containing unwanted chemicals in the markets where Kingfisher operates.

The research identifies product types where the absence of specific harmful chemicals can be considered a positive sustainability attribute. These products are then recognised under the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.

This research is updated annually to reflect improvements in the market. As safer alternatives become more widely available, the criteria will evolve accordingly.

The list of unwanted chemicals is detailed in **Appendix 3: Unwanted Chemicals List**. The list includes chemicals that have not yet been phased out by regulations.



SHP Criteria:

These criteria are only relevant whilst there are products on the market that still retain these specified chemicals. Research is being undertaken annually to review and update this list based on products available to customers in the markets where Kingfisher banners operate.

Specified chemical products that do not contain substances listed in **Appendix 3: Unwanted Chemicals List**:

- > Specified sealants. Please note that sealants should also have a maximum volatile organic compound (VOC) rating of low (based on BCF rating) or B (based on French VOC labelling requirements) if relevant for the product.
 - All-weather sealant.
 - All-purpose sealant, including fire resistant sealant.
 - Kitchen, bathroom and sanitary sealant.
 - Frame sealant.
 - Roofing and gutter sealant.
 - Flooring sealant,
 - Expanding foam sealant.
 - Damp and stain sealant.
 - Caulk.
 - Tile sealer.
- > Tile grout.
- > Putty.
- > Building chemicals.
- > Specified adhesives:
 - Grab and contact adhesive.
 - PVA (Polyvinyl alcohol adhesive), wood glue.

(continued over)

- Polyurethane adhesive.
- Superglue.
- Spray foam adhesive sealant.
- Carpet adhesive.
- Vinyl floor tile adhesive.
- Coving adhesive.
- Roofing felt adhesive.
- Tile adhesives.
- Combined tile adhesives and grouts.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Specified solid objects that do not contain unwanted chemicals

Following the same methodology used for chemical products, Kingfisher has commissioned research to assess whether customers in its markets can easily purchase solid products that contain unwanted chemicals.

This research identifies product types where the absence of specific harmful substances can be recognised as a positive sustainability attribute under the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.

Following the same methodology as for chemical products, Kingfisher has commissioned work to assess whether customers in the markets in which Kingfisher operates can easily purchase products that contain unwanted chemicals.

This work is updated annually to reflect improvements in product availability and market standards.

The list of unwanted chemicals is detailed in **Appendix 3: Unwanted Chemicals List**. The list includes chemicals that have not yet been phased out by regulations.

The research prioritises solid products that may contain:

- > Plasticised, flexible PVC – which may include ortho-phthalates as plasticisers.
- > Flame retardants – particularly halogenated flame retardants, which have been linked to health concerns.
- > PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) – often used for stain, water, and grease resistance in consumer goods.





Criteria:

These criteria are only relevant whilst there are products on the market that still retain these specified chemicals. Research is being undertaken annually to review and update this list based on products available to customers in the markets where Kingfisher banners operate.

Specified solid object products that do not contain substances listed in **Appendix 3: Unwanted Chemicals List**:

- > Specified products that have flame retardant additives:
 - Electrical products that have flame retardant additives:
 - Cable tidies, cable reels, power supplies, extension leads, corrugated conduit, sleeving, conduit fittings accessories.
 - Insulation that has flame retardant additives.
- > Specified products with an applied waterproof coating:
 - Garden furniture, parasols and outdoor textiles that have an applied waterproof coating.
- > Specified products that are made from flexible PVC where PVC comprises 30% or more of the total product weight that do not contain any of the substances specified on the **Unwanted Chemicals List (Appendix 3)**. These criteria should not be applied to virgin plastic products where it has been demonstrated that it is feasible to move to recycled plastics or other alternative materials.
 - Gloves that have a PVC coating or dip.
 - Disposable gloves are not included.
 - Wellingtons that comprise PVC as the main material.
 - Artificial Christmas trees, wreaths, garlands, lights and silhouettes.
 - Decorative string lights.
 - Vinyl flooring.
 - Blinds made from PVC.
 - Plastic shower curtains and bathmats.
 - Hose pipes and reels.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Footwear

Footwear typically contains a high number of components compared to other clothing items, so its sustainability assessment considers multiple factors:

Key focus areas:

- > Chemical safety, especially for components that come into direct contact with skin.
- > Maximising the use of recycled and responsibly sourced materials.

End-of-life options for footwear are also under review and may be added to the criteria in the future.

Wellington boots fall under the scope of the **Solid Objects** criteria due to their material composition and structure.



Leather sourcing policy

Leather used in footwear must be sourced from suppliers certified by the **Leather Working Group** (LWG) at a Silver level or higher. This ensures:

- > Responsible environmental practices.
- > Traceability and transparency in the leather supply chain.

Third-Party schemes

When referencing third-party certifications or schemes:

- > Always consult the official website of the scheme for details on scope, requirements, and certification processes.
- > Use of logos or other intellectual property may require permission and adherence to the scheme's branding guidelines.



SHP Criteria:

Please note that a number of policies apply to footwear and these must be met before the product can be assessed. These include requirements for responsible leather sourcing and chemical safety.

Footwear must have at least two of the following three main components made from positively defined materials:

1. **Accessories** (e.g., shoelaces, liner, insole) made from certified recycled materials or **OEKO-TEX®** certified materials.
2. **Upper** made from certified recycled materials or **OEKO-TEX®** certified materials.
3. **Outsole** with all plastic components phthalate-free and compliant with the **Restricted Substances List** (RSL), meeting the chemical requirements outlined in **Appendix 3: Unwanted Chemicals List**.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Active and independent living

The Sustainable Home Products programme includes products and solutions that help people live independently and actively in their homes. This supports:

- > Health and wellbeing.
- > Social inclusion.
- > Confidence in daily living, especially for older adults or those with limited mobility.

Enabling Cycling

Choosing to cycle instead of driving offers multiple benefits:

- > Improves personal health through physical activity.
- > Reduces air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
- > Lowers traffic congestion and noise in urban areas.

Encouraging cycling through the availability of bike storage, maintenance tools, and safe cycling accessories supports both independent living and environmental sustainability.



Criteria:

Products that enable cycling and make cycling more accessible including:

- > Bicycles.
- > Helmets.
- > Locks and other security devices.
- > Cycle storage.

Please note that products designed for transporting bicycles on cars are not included.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Independent living

Products that support independent living are designed to help customers with limited mobility or changing physical needs. These adaptations enable people to use their homes safely, confidently, and independently.

Being able to live safely and comfortably in our homes throughout all stages of life is essential - and adapting our homes plays a key role in achieving this.

Examples of Supportive adaptations:

- > Grab rails in bathrooms.
- > Lever-style taps and easy-grip handles.
- > Adjustable-height furniture.
- > Accessible storage solutions.
- > Step-free access and widened doorways.

These solutions not only enhance safety and comfort, but also promote dignity and independence for people of all ages and abilities.



SHP Criteria:

Products that enable homes to be adapted for independent living:

- > Grab rails, shower seats, walk-in baths and other products that enable safe and independent use of bathrooms (including “Doc M” products).
 - Please note that although high-capacity baths (200 litres or over) are **Watch Listed** under the attribute **Saving water at home**, an exception is made for baths specifically designed to make bathing easier for customers with limited mobility.
- > Safety rails, ramps and other products that can make access to the home safer.
- > Adjustable height work surfaces for kitchens.
- > Pull down storage mechanisms for kitchen wall cupboards.
- > Gadgets that can help to make daily life easier, for example, tools that enable picking up items without the need to bend.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

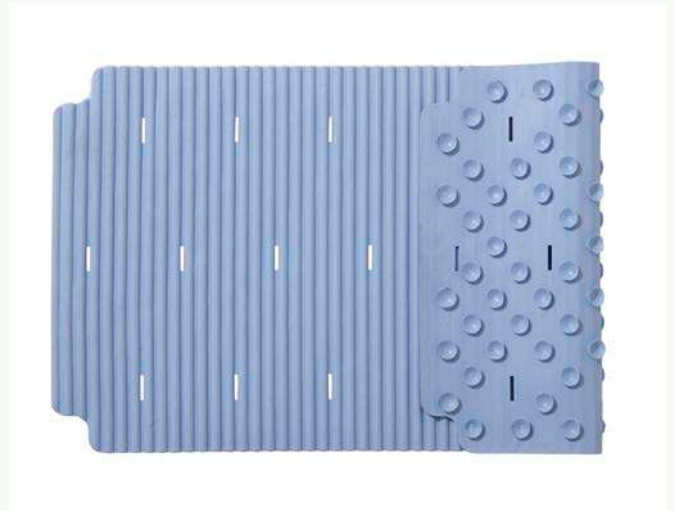
Home safety

Helping our customers to avoid accidents at home and to keep safe.

Anti-slip

Slips and falls are a leading cause of home injuries, especially for older adults.

Our anti-slip products are designed to support independent living by reducing these risks. Each product is tested using industry-recognized standards and is only recommended where slipping is a known hazard.



Criteria:

Products that meet one of the following anti-slip criteria:

- > Flooring (including floor tiles) should reach following thresholds.
 - Standard level R11 For DIN51130 or PC 20 for XP 05-011 or group B for DIN EN 16165 annex A,B, or PTV>36° annex C.
 - Higher level >R11 For DIN51130 or PC 20 for XP 05-011.
- > Shower trays should reach (barefoot test) following thresholds.
 - Standard level for grade B DIN 51097 or PN18 for XP05-010.
 - Higher level > grade B DIN 51097 or PN18 for XP05-010.
- > Bathmats (designed to be used inside a bathtub or shower tray) should reach following thresholds.
 - Standard level > 18° to 20° BS 8445.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Child safety

Products designed to help keep children safe in the home.



Criteria:

Child safety products, including stair gates.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Electrical safety

Products that can help to find electrical safety problems and can help to prevent accidents.



Criteria:

- > Testing equipment and tools.
- > Residual current devices.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Fire safety

We help protect homes and families by reducing the risk of domestic fires and their harmful health effects.

While most products with disposable batteries are placed on our **Watch List** due to sustainability concerns, we make an exception for gas, smoke, and carbon monoxide detectors. If the manufacturer specifies that single-use batteries are essential for the device's effectiveness, these products remain approved for safety-critical use.



Criteria:

- > Smoke and heat alarms and detectors.
 - Please note that although most products supplied with disposable batteries are **Watch Listed**, an exception is made for gas, smoke and CO detectors and alarms if the manufacturer specifies single use for reasons of product effectiveness.
 - This includes alarms and detectors that form part of smart home systems.
- > Fire extinguishers, fire blankets.
- > Fire safety products with BS EN 12519 certification.
- > Fire doors, intumescent fire and smoke seals.
- > Fire door retainers.
- > Escape ladders.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Protection from sun exposure

There is a wealth of research that highlights the dangers of prolonged sun exposure due to the presence of **Ultra Violet Radiation** (UVR). UVR is linked to skin cancers, eye disorders (such as cataracts) and immune system issues. Whilst there are benefits to UVR exposure (notably for vitamin D synthesis), only relatively low levels of exposure are required.

There are many ways to reduce exposure, including using sunscreen, wearing suitable clothing and sunglasses and spending time in the shade, especially between 11am and 3pm.



Parasols, awnings and canopies can provide more shade in a garden, helping to reduce prolonged sun exposure. However, not all of these products provide the same protection so only products that provide an **Ultraviolet Protection Factor** (UPF, similar to SPF for sunscreen) of 40 or above are included in these criteria.



SHP Criteria:

Parasols, awnings and canopies where: :

- > The manufacturer can provide a third party verified certificate that the product has a UPF40 rating or higher. Accepted certification includes AATCC 183 / ASTM D6603, AS / NZS 4399, or EN 13758.
- > A test report can be supplied that confirms the product does not use any substances listed in the **Unwanted Chemicals List (Appendix 3)**.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Flood protection for homes and gardens

Flooding can cause serious damage to homes and gardens, affecting both property and personal wellbeing.

Flood protection solutions are designed to help prevent water from entering your home and to support quick removal when flooding does occur.

These criteria focus on protecting against environmental flooding, such as rising groundwater or overflowing rivers.

Preventing flooding, such as fixing internal leaks or reducing surface water flooding from heavy rain are covered under the **Saving Water at Home** attribute.



SHP Criteria:

Flood protection products including:

- > Flood barriers and boards.
- > Flood pumps.
- > Non-return valves for drains and pipes.
- > Toilet pan seals.
- > Air brick covers.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.



Protecting Health at Home Watch List

Products that can contribute to air pollution:

- > Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) air pollution:
 - Petrol powered tools and accessories.
- > Particulate air pollution:
 - Solid fuel burning outdoors:
 - Incinerators.
 - Fire pits, chimineas.
 - Charcoal barbecues, charcoal.
 - Outdoor use candles.

- Solid fuel burning indoors:
 - Peat and coal fuel.
 - Wood for burning, including pellets and kindling.
 - Alternative solid fuels including logs made from waste materials.
 - Boilers, stoves and heaters designed to burn coal or peat.
- Candles.
- Gas hobs. The fumes from cooking can contribute to poor indoor air quality. If using a gas hob, ensure that a cooker hood is used to help extract fumes.
- > Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) air pollution:
 - Solvent based paints and wood treatments.
 - Products meeting or exceeding the following volatile organic compound standards:
 - 25% “Medium” or worse based on UK globe VOC labelling.
 - C or worse based on French VOC labelling.
- > Harmful chemicals:
 - Corrosive household and decorating chemicals, including drain cleaners based on strong acids or alkalis.
 - Products containing glyphosate.
 - The following products if they contain **Unwanted Chemicals** (as detailed in [Appendix 3](#)). Please note that this list is based on the same research as the assessments for chemical safety criteria:
 - Chemical products:
 - Sealants from the following list:
 - All-weather sealant.
 - All-purpose sealant, including fire resistant sealant.
 - Kitchen, bathroom and sanitary sealant.
 - Frame sealant.
 - Roofing and gutter sealant.
 - Flooring sealant.
 - Damp and stain sealant.
 - Caulk.
 - Tile sealer
 - Grout.
 - Putty.
 - Specified adhesives:
 - By type:
 - Grab and contact adhesive.
 - PVA (Polyvinyl alcohol adhesive), wood glue.
 - Polyurethane adhesive.
 - Superglue.
 - Spray foam adhesive.

- By product application type:
 - Carpet adhesive.
 - Vinyl floor tile adhesive.
 - Coving adhesive.
 - Roofing felt adhesive.
- Solid objects:
 - Cable tidies, cable reels, power supplies, extension leads, corrugated conduit, sleeving, conduit fittings accessories.
 - Gloves.
 - Decorations that are comprised of 50% or more plastic:
 - Artificial Christmas trees, wreaths and garlands.
 - Tree decorations, baubles, bead chains, tinsel, table decorations.
 - Toys and animations.
 - String lights, silhouettes and other decorative lights.
 - Flooring and blinds:
 - Vinyl flooring rolls and tiles.
 - Flooring thresholds and trims.
 - Cladding.
 - Blinds.
 - Bath mats and shower curtains containing that are comprised of 50% or more flexible PVC.
 - Wallpaper that is 30% or more PVC.
 - Garden materials that contain flame retardants and/or water proofing. Please note that the material should comprise 50% or more of the product by weight.
 - Awnings and outdoor blinds, canopies, pavilions.
 - Outdoor furniture: drinks cabinet, benches, trolleys, hammocks, stools, swings, tables, garden furniture accessories, beds, chairs, furniture sets, sofas, loungers.
 - Outdoor cushions and throws.
 - Parasols and accessories, shade sails.
 - Hose pipes and reels that are comprised of 30% or more PVC.



Saving Energy at Home

Helping our customers use energy more efficiently - and increasing the use of renewable power - can significantly reduce carbon emissions from our homes.

At Kingfisher, around 74% of our carbon footprint comes from the energy our customers use to power products purchased from us, including kitchen appliances, lighting and heaters.

Across the EU, **households consumed 27.4% of total energy in 2020**, more than the industrial sector. In the UK, **homes account for 22% of carbon emissions**, according to the **Energy Saving Trust**.

Heating is the biggest energy user in homes, with **62.8% of household energy in the EU going to space heating, and another 15.1% to water heating. Lighting and appliances use 14.5%, while cooking accounts for 6.1%.**

To help reduce energy use, the **Energy Saving Trust** suggests:

- > Improving insulation to reduce heat loss
- > Installing energy-efficient windows and doors
- > Draught-proofing and upgrading heating systems
- > Switching to efficient lighting and appliances

Simple changes can also make a difference. For example, drying clothes on a washing line instead of using a tumble dryer saves electricity.

As the climate warms, cooling is becoming a growing concern. While only **0.4% of household energy in the EU was used for cooling in 2020**, more homes - especially in northern regions like the UK and France - are seeking ways to stay comfortable during heatwaves. Solutions include:

- > Efficient fans and air conditioning units
- > Shutters and thermal blinds to reduce indoor heat

Finally, switching to renewable energy - such as solar panels - can reduce reliance on fossil fuels and lower household energy bills.



There are **green star** criteria relating to this attribute and details are shown alongside the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.



Contents for criteria in the Saving Energy at Home attribute:

- > [Alternatives to energy using products](#)
- > [Cooling homes](#)
- > [Controlling energy use](#)
- > [Heating and hot water](#)
- > [Kitchen appliances](#)
- > [Lighting](#)
- > [Power tools](#)
- > [Renewable energy](#)
- > [Thermal efficiency](#)
- > [Watch List](#)



Saving Energy at Home criteria

Alternatives to energy using products

Some of the simplest ways to save energy at home involve choosing alternatives to products that consume electricity or gas.

These alternatives often rely on natural processes or manual effort, helping to reduce both energy bills and carbon emissions.

For example:

- > Use a clothes line or drying rack instead of a tumble dryer whenever the weather allows. This simple switch can cut electricity use.
- > Open windows for ventilation instead of using electric fans or air conditioning when outdoor conditions are suitable.
- > Make more use of natural daylight instead of switching on an electric light.

These small changes, when adopted consistently, can make a difference in household energy consumption.

Alternatives to energy using products criteria

Please note that clothes airers designed for indoor use are excluded due to the impact that drying clothes indoors can have on air quality.





Criteria:



- > Sun pipes, sun tunnels, making more use of natural light.
- > Clothes lines and airers (outdoor use) as an alternative to tumble dryers.
- > Hand push mowers as an alternative to powered mowers.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Cooling homes

As climate change leads to more frequent heatwaves, even households in northern Europe are increasingly concerned about staying comfortable during hot weather. Adapting our homes to cope with rising temperatures is becoming just as important as keeping them warm in winter.

Shading

One of the most effective ways to reduce indoor heat is by shading windows and glazed doors. This helps limit solar gain—the heat that builds up when sunlight passes through glass and warms interior spaces.



The **Agence de la Transition Écologique (Ademe)** provides guidance on how to use shutters to prevent overheating. Their recommendations include:

- > Installing external shutters or blinds to block direct sunlight before it enters the home.
- > Using automatic control systems to adjust shading throughout the day. These systems can be programmed to:
 - Reduce solar radiation in summer by closing shutters during the hottest parts of the day.
 - Maximize natural light and warmth in winter by opening shutters when sunlight is beneficial.

By integrating smart shading solutions, households can maintain a more stable indoor temperature, reduce reliance on air conditioning, and lower energy consumption.



Criteria:



- > Shutters (including those with electronic controls) designed for use over windows or glazed doors.
- > Awnings designed to be fitted above windows or glazed doors.
- > Thermal blinds and curtains.
- > Glazing films designed to reduce solar gain.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Comfort fans

Comfort fans are a practical and energy-efficient way to stay cool during hot weather. While they don't lower the air temperature like air conditioning units, they create airflow that helps the body feel cooler through the wind-chill effect.

- > Lower energy use: Fans typically consume far less electricity than air conditioners, making them a more sustainable and cost-effective option.
- > Personal cooling: Mini or personal fans are especially efficient. They're designed to cool individuals rather than entire rooms, which means they use even less energy while still providing relief.



By choosing the right type of fan and using it strategically, households can stay comfortable while keeping energy consumption low.



Criteria:



- > Ceiling fans, including ceiling fans with lighting.
- > Personal mini fans powered by rechargeable batteries or USB.
- > Mains powered cooling fans meeting energy efficiency criteria. The service value of a fan is the amount of air moved per minute per watt of electricity. A higher service value means a more efficient fan.
 - Standard criteria: With a service value => 1.0 m³/min/W.
 - Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): Fans with a service value => 1.5 m³/min/W.



Criteria:

- > Ceiling fans.
- > Comfort fans with a service value => 1.5 m³/min/W .

Air conditioning

As extreme summer weather becomes more common, more households are turning to air conditioning to stay cool. While effective, air conditioning can be energy-intensive – so choosing the right system is essential for reducing environmental impact and energy costs.



Choosing efficient models

To minimise energy use, it's important to select energy-efficient air conditioning units that include smart features such as:

- > Open window detection – automatically pauses cooling when a window is open.
- > Programmable timers and thermostats – to avoid unnecessary operation.
- > Inverter technology – which adjusts power use based on cooling demand.

These features help optimise performance and reduce wasted energy.

Air-to-Air heat pumps

Many air-to-air heat pumps offer both heating and cooling functions, making them a versatile and efficient choice for year-round comfort. These systems are included under the broader **Heat Pump** criteria, and may be more efficient than traditional air conditioning units, especially in well-insulated homes.



Criteria:

- > A++ Energy rating for cooling function.
 - If the air conditioner also has a heating function, that should have an Energy rating for heating rated A+ or better.
- > Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): A+++ energy label rating for cooling function.
 - If the air conditioner also has a heating function, that should have an energy label for heating rated A++ or better.



Criteria:

- > A+++ Energy label rating for cooling function.
 - If the air conditioner also has a heating function, that should have an energy label for heating rated A++ or better.

Controlling energy use

Managing how we use heating and power in our homes not only helps reduce energy consumption but also enhances comfort and convenience.

Smart home systems

Advancements in technology are making it easier than ever to control energy use at home. Smart home systems that directly or indirectly manage energy consumption can qualify under the **Sustainable Home** criteria - provided they meet certain requirements.



To be eligible, a smart home system must:

- > Include a central hub capable of controlling energy-using devices.
- > Be linked to appliances, lighting, heating, or other energy-consuming components.

What's included:

- > Components that work across multiple systems (e.g. universal smart thermostats or lighting controllers).
- > Retrofit components that improve the efficiency of existing heating systems.

What's not Included:

- > Components focused solely on security (e.g. cameras, alarms).
- > Components associated with energy-intensive products listed on the **Watch List for Saving Energy at Home**

It's worth noting that while some components may not meet energy-saving criteria, they could still qualify under other **Sustainable Home Product** attributes:

- > Smoke alarms may qualify under **Protecting Health at Home**.
- > Garden water timers may qualify under **Saving Water at Home**.

By integrating smart systems thoughtfully, households can gain greater control over their energy use - leading to smarter, more sustainable living.



Criteria:

Smart home systems that include controlling energy (e.g. heating, lighting):

- > The main controller (where energy control is a key feature).
- > Components designed to help improve energy control including:
 - Thermostats.
 - Motion detectors, presence detectors.
 - Smart plugs with an energy monitoring or energy saving feature such as power down, geofencing or remote switching.
 - Smart LED lighting (must be **F rated or better** where the **Energy Label** is relevant).
 - Smart radiator valves.
 - Components that enable or improve renewable energy use
 - Weather detectors and compensators.





Criteria:

Smart home systems that include controlling energy (e.g. heating, lighting):

- > The main controller (where energy control is a key feature).
- > Components designed to help improve energy control including:
 - Thermostats.
 - Motion detectors, presence detectors.
 - Smart plugs with an energy monitoring or energy saving feature such as power down, geofencing or remote switching.
 - Smart LED lighting (must be **D rated or better** where the **Energy Label** is relevant).
 - Smart radiator valves.
 - Components that enable or improve renewable energy use
 - Weather detectors and compensators.

Heating and hot water controls

Heating controls play a key role in managing energy use at home. By allowing you to control when and how your heating operates, they help maintain comfort while avoiding unnecessary energy consumption.

Why heating controls matter

- > They help reduce energy waste by ensuring heating is only used when needed.
- > They support consistent indoor comfort by maintaining desired temperatures more efficiently.
- > They are especially useful in retrofit scenarios, where older heating systems are still in use.



Inclusion in Sustainable Home Product criteria

Although gas, oil, and solid fuel heating systems are listed on the **Watch List** due to their high energy use, controls for these systems are included in the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria. This is because they can significantly improve the efficiency of existing systems, especially when installed as part of a retrofit.

Important note on underfloor heating

Products that are only compatible with wired underfloor heating systems are excluded from the criteria. Wired underfloor heating is considered an energy-intensive form of heating and is therefore on the **Watch List**.



Criteria:

- > Cylinder thermostats, pipe thermostats.
- > Room thermostats.
- > Heating and hot water programmers and timers.

(continued over)



- > Thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs).
 - These valves enable different rooms to be set to different temperatures.
 - All bar one radiator in a heating system typically can be fitted with a TRV.
 - It is not advisable to turn a TRV off completely. Instead, set to the frost setting that will help to stop pipes freezing.
- > Weather compensators.
 - A weather compensator measures the temperature outside and changes the temperature of water running through a heating system accordingly.



Criteria:

- > Cylinder thermostats, pipe thermostats.
- > Room thermostats.
- > Heating and hot water programmers and timers.
- > Thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs).
- > Weather compensators.

Thermometers

Thermometers are simple yet effective tools that can help households monitor and manage energy use more efficiently.

Home heating

- > Room thermometers can help ensure that heating systems are set to maintain a comfortable temperature without wasting energy.
- > Monitoring indoor temperatures can also help identify areas where insulation or draught-proofing may be needed.

Thermal efficiency checks

- > Specialist thermometers and heat detectors (such as infrared thermometers or thermal cameras) can be used to:
 - Check for heat loss around windows, doors, and walls.
 - Assess the effectiveness of insulation and other energy-saving measures.

Fridge thermometers

- > Keeping your refrigerator at the right temperature is important for both energy efficiency and food safety.
- > A fridge thermometer can help ensure your appliance is operating between 3°C and 5°C:
- > Below 3°C: More electricity is used, and food may freeze unnecessarily.
- > Above 5°C: Food may spoil due to inadequate refrigeration.

Using thermometers in these ways can support better energy management and help identify opportunities for improvement around the home.





Criteria:

- > Room thermometers.
- > Specialist heat detectors and thermometers.
- > Fridge thermometers.



Criteria:

- > Room thermometers.
- > Specialist heat detectors and thermometers.
- > Fridge thermometers.

Controlling electrical devices

Timers, motion detectors and other controls can help to ensure that devices are only turned on when they are needed. They can help to reduce energy wasted when appliances are left on stand-by.



Criteria:

- > Sockets and extension leads that enable energy control:
 - Controller/Peripheral extension leads.
 - Sockets designed to reduce standby energy consumption.
 - Individually switched multi socket extension leads.
- > Motion sensors (including passive infra-red controls) and presence detectors.
 - Includes light fittings that have these features.
 - Excludes sensors that work exclusively with security systems.
- > Photo sensors and dusk-dawn controls.
 - Includes light fittings that have these features.
- > Remote controls for sockets and lighting.
- > Timers for electrical devices.
 - Includes light fittings that have these features.





Criteria:

- > Sockets and extension leads that enable energy control:
 - Controller/Peripheral extension leads.
 - Sockets designed to reduce standby energy consumption.
 - Individually switched multi socket extension leads.
- > Motion sensors (including passive infra-red controls) and presence detectors.
 - Includes light fittings that have these features.
 - Excludes sensors that work exclusively with security systems.
- > Photo sensors and dusk-dawn controls.
 - Includes light fittings that have these features.
- > Remote controls for sockets and lighting.
- > Timers for electrical devices.
 - Includes light fittings that have these features.

Heating and hot water

Heating and hot water are the largest sources of energy use in the home.

In EU households, an estimated 62.8% of total energy consumption is used for space heating - making it the single biggest contributor to domestic energy use.

An additional 15.1% is used for heating water, such as for showers, baths, and washing.

Together, these two functions account for nearly four-fifths of household energy use, highlighting the importance of improving the efficiency of heating systems, insulation, and hot water controls.

By upgrading to more efficient systems and using smart controls, households can significantly reduce both their energy bills and carbon footprint.



Space heaters, including heating systems

Heat pumps

Heat pumps are one of the most energy-efficient ways to heat a home. They work like a refrigerator in reverse—extracting heat from the air outside and transferring it indoors. While they run on electricity, they use significantly less energy than traditional electric heaters because they move heat rather than generate it.

- > High efficiency: Heat pumps can deliver 3 to 4 times more heat energy than the electrical energy they consume.
- > Dual function: Many air-to-air heat pumps also provide cooling, making them a year-round solution for indoor comfort.
- > Lower emissions: When powered by renewable electricity, heat pumps can drastically reduce a home's carbon footprint.

Air-to-air heat pumps with a cooling function are assessed under the same **energy efficiency criteria as air conditioning units**.

While air conditioning units are covered separately, both product types must meet equivalent standards for inclusion under **Sustainable Home** criteria.

By choosing a high-efficiency heat pump, households can enjoy reliable heating and cooling while significantly reducing energy use and environmental impact.



Criteria:

- > Air source heat pumps (air to water).
- > Air to air heat pumps that meet A+ or better for their heating function.
 - If the pump has a cooling function, this should be A++ or better.
- > Ground source heat pumps.
- > Accessories for heat pumps.



Criteria:

- > Air source heat pumps (air to water).
- > Air to air heat pumps that meet A++ or better for their heating function.
 - If the pump has a cooling function, this should be A+++ or better.
- > Ground source heat pumps.
- > Accessories for heat pumps

Mechanical ventilation with heat recovery

Mechanical ventilation with heat recovery (MVHR) systems improve energy efficiency by capturing heat from the air being extracted from the home and using it to warm the incoming fresh air.

How it works

As stale, warm air is removed from kitchens, bathrooms, and other areas, the system transfers its heat to the cooler, incoming air.

This process helps maintain indoor temperatures without the need for additional heating.

Key benefits

- > Reduces heat loss from ventilation.
- > Improves indoor air quality by ensuring a constant supply of fresh air.
- > Supports the primary heating system by reducing the amount of energy needed to heat incoming air.

While MVHR systems are not typically the main source of heating, they are an effective complement to a home's primary heating system - especially in well-insulated, airtight homes.



Criteria:

- > Mechanical heat recovery products and systems.



Criteria:

- > Mechanical ventilation with heat recovery products and systems.

Electric boilers

Electric boilers are an alternative to traditional gas or oil boilers, offering a cleaner and often more compact solution for home heating and hot water.

How they work

Electric boilers operate in much the same way as gas boilers:

- > They heat water for central heating systems and domestic hot water use.
- > They use electricity to generate heat—making them a suitable option for homes aiming to reduce carbon emissions, especially when powered by renewable electricity.



Key Benefits

- > No on-site emissions: Ideal for homes looking to move away from gas or oil.
- > Compact and quiet: Often smaller and quieter than traditional boilers.
- > Simpler installation: No flue or fuel storage required.

Considerations

- > Running costs may be higher than gas, depending on electricity prices.
- > Best suited for well-insulated homes or properties with low heating demand.
- > Electric boilers can be a practical solution for homes without access to gas, or as part of a broader strategy to electrify home energy use in line with sustainability goals
- > These are alternatives to gas boilers, working in the same way, but powered by electricity.



Criteria:

- > Electric boilers with an energy rating of D or better.



Criteria:

- > Electric boilers with an energy rating of D or better.

Electric heaters

Electric heating can be more expensive to run than other heating options, especially in regions where electricity prices are high. However, for some homes - particularly those without access to gas or with limited heating options - efficient electric heaters remain an important solution.

Electric heaters are included in these guidelines where they meet higher performance standards, ensuring they are as energy efficient as possible.

- > The criteria reference both current **Ecodesign** requirements and proposed updates for 2025.
- > These standards are set above the legal minimum, encouraging the use of more efficient models.
- > **Ecodesign** compliance is measured using a percentage-based scoring system, which reflects the inclusion of energy-saving features (e.g. thermostats, timers, open window detection), rather than direct heating efficiency.

See [Appendix 4](#) for a detailed explanation of how these percentages are calculated under the **Ecodesign** standard.

Some types of electric heaters - particularly those that are less efficient or energy-intensive - are included on the **Watch List** and are not eligible under the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria.



Electric heaters and green star

- > **Green star** criteria apply only to fixed electric heaters sold in France, where the carbon intensity of electricity is lower than in many other EU countries.
- > This reflects the environmental benefit of electric heating in regions with cleaner electricity grids.



Criteria:



For a product to meet this criteria, it has to meet minimum efficiency score and to meet the **EcoDesign** requirements (Lot 20). These scores and related features are described in detail in **Appendix 4**.

- > Portable = 48.95%.
- > Fixed heaters:
 - i. <250W = 45.26%.
 - ii. >=250W = 48.40% and a warranty of 2 years or longer. If sold in France, the heater should have NF Electricite certification.
- Bathroom heaters (may be described as “towel rails” or “towel heaters”).
 - i. 60-250W = 44.21%.
 - ii. >=250W = 48.40% and a warranty of 2 years or longer. If sold in France, the heater should have **NF Electricite** certification.



Criteria:

Only to be applied to products sold in France, excluding portable heaters. In addition, heaters should meet the **EcoDesign** requirements (Lot 20).

- > Either:
 - **NF ***** (eye) certification.
- > Or
 - As criteria for Sustainable Home Products, but at the following levels:
 - Fixed heaters:
 - i. <250W = 46.58% and have **NF** certification.
 - ii. >=250W = 50.50% and have **NF** certification.
 - Bathroom heaters:
 - i. 60-250W = 46.58% and have **NF** certification.
 - ii. >=250W = 50.50% and have **NF** certification.

Water heaters

Choosing an efficient water heater can help to reduce energy consumption.

The **Agence de la Transition Ecologique** (Ademe) also highlight the importance of choosing the right size water heater for your needs – the agency estimates that a third of water heated is not used.

Gas water heaters are **Watch Listed**.



Criteria:



- > Electric water heaters with an energy label rating of B or better.
- > Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): Electric water heaters with an energy label rating of A or better.



Criteria:

- > Electric water heaters with an energy label rating of A or better.

Space and water heating efficiency

Using heating systems efficiently not only reduces energy consumption but also helps maintain a comfortable and consistent indoor environment.



Criteria:



- > Wet type underfloor heating.
 - Wet type underfloor heating can heat a space effectively using less energy to do so than a traditional wall hung radiator.
 - This is because it has a larger surface area so can work well with water no warmer than 45°C.
 - It works well with air source or ground source heat pumps, as well as with conventional boilers.
 - Please note that there is another form of underfloor heating that uses electric wires instead of hot water pipes. The wired version is energy intensive and is **Watch Listed**.
- > Radiator keys.
 - Radiator keys are used to maintain radiators, “bleeding” air out of the heating system. This can help to keep radiators working efficiently.
- > Products that help to maintain the efficiency of space or water heating systems including scale inhibitors, system cleaners, noise reducers and magnetic scale reducers.
- > Mixer taps fitted with “cold start” feature.
 - This feature ensures that when a tap is turned on for cold water, no hot water is drawn from the system. If a home has a combination boiler (that heats water as required), it will not be ignited, helping to save energy at home.
 - Please note that for basin and kitchen taps, flow rates must also meet the requirements in **Saving Water at Home**.



Criteria:

- > Wet type underfloor heating.
- > Radiator keys.

Insulating heating and hot water systems

Proper insulation of heating and hot water systems is a simple yet effective way to reduce energy loss and improve efficiency.

- > Pipe and cylinder insulation.
 - Wrapping hot water pipes and insulating hot water cylinders helps keep water warmer for longer.
 - This reduces the amount of energy needed to reheat water, saving both energy and money.
- > Radiator reflectors.
 - If a radiator is mounted on an external wall, fitting a reflective panel or foil behind it can help:
 - Reflect heat back into the room.
 - Reduce heat loss through the wall.
 - This is a low-cost measure that can make a noticeable difference in room warmth and heating efficiency.



These simple upgrades can be installed with minimal effort and offer long-term benefits in energy savings and comfort.



Criteria:



- > Cylinder jackets.
 - These may also be considered for water heaters as well as hot water storage cylinders.
- > Insulated hot water cylinders.
- > Pipe insulation & accessories.
- > Radiator foil and reflective panels designed to be fitted behind radiators.



Criteria:

- > Cylinder jackets.
 - These may also be considered for water heaters as well as hot water storage cylinders.
- > Insulated hot water cylinders.
- > Pipe insulation & accessories.
- > Radiator foil and reflective panels designed to be fitted behind radiators.

Kitchen appliances

When choosing large kitchen appliances—such as fridges, freezers, ovens, and dishwashers—energy efficiency is a key factor in reducing household energy use and running costs.

Using the Energy Label

The **EU Energy Label** is a reliable guide to how energy efficient a product is. It provides a clear rating from A (most efficient) to G (least efficient), helping consumers make informed choices. The A-G label replaces a scale of A+++ to D that is still used on some types of kitchen appliance.

Size Matters

While a product may have a high efficiency rating, larger appliances naturally consume more energy. For example:

- > A large, A-rated fridge freezer may still use more electricity overall than a smaller, less efficient model.

Choosing the right size for your needs is just as important as choosing the right rating.

Criteria Used in These Guidelines

These guidelines are based on the **Label 2020 project**, which is active in 15 EU member states and the UK. This project includes a “Best in Class” chart that identifies the **Energy Label** rating considered “efficient” for each appliance type that factors in availability.

Sustainable Home Product Criteria

- > The **Standard Sustainable Home Product** criteria align with the “efficient” level identified in the **Label 2020** project.
- > The **Higher Sustainable Home Product** criteria and **green star** criteria are set 1 to 2 levels below the most efficient rating currently available, encouraging the selection of top-performing products.

By using the **Energy Label** and considering both efficiency and size, households can make smarter choices that reduce energy use and environmental impact.

Cooker hoods, range hoods

Cooker hoods play an important role in maintaining indoor air quality by extracting cooking fumes, steam, and airborne particles that can contribute to poor air quality in the home.

Cooker hoods currently use the older **EU Energy Label**, which rates products from A+++ (most efficient) to D (least efficient).

While this labelling system is different from the newer A–G scale used for other appliances, it still provides a useful guide to energy performance.

Cooker hoods are assessed under two **Sustainable Home Product** attributes:

- > **Saving Energy at Home** – based on their energy efficiency rating.
- > **Protecting Health at Home** – due to their role in improving indoor air quality by removing pollutants generated during cooking.

By choosing an energy-efficient cooker hood and using it regularly, households can reduce exposure to indoor air pollutants.





Criteria:



- > Energy label rating of A based on the current energy label (has not yet been rescaled).
- > Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): energy label rating of A+ based on the current energy label (has not yet been rescaled).



Criteria:

- > Energy label rating of A+ based on the current energy label (has not yet been rescaled).

Dishwashers

Modern dishwashers are designed to be energy- and water-efficient, making them a smart choice for sustainable living - especially when used efficiently.

The **EU Energy Label** for dishwashers provides more than just energy efficiency ratings. It also includes:

- > Water consumption per cycle
- > Noise levels
- > Capacity (number of place settings)

Tips for efficient use

- > Wait for a full load before running the dishwasher to maximise efficiency.
- > Skip pre-rinsing: Most modern dishwashers are designed to handle dirty dishes without the need to rinse them first.
- > Use the Eco setting: This cycle uses less water and energy, even if it takes a bit longer to complete.



Criteria:



- > Energy label rating of D based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.
- > Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): energy label rating of B based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.



Criteria:

- > Energy label rating of B based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.

Laundry: washing machines and tumble dryers

Laundry appliances can be significant energy and water users in the home but using them efficiently can help reduce both environmental impact and running costs.

Washing machines

The **Energy Label** for washing machines (A-G) includes:

- > Energy efficiency rating.
- > Water consumption per cycle.
- > Noise levels.
- > Spin cycle efficiency, which affects how much moisture remains in clothes - impacting drying time and energy use.

Tips for efficient use:

- > Wait for a full load before running the machine to maximise efficiency.
- > Use eco settings where available - they clean effectively while using less water and energy.
- > Higher spin speeds can reduce drying time, especially if using a tumble dryer.

Washer dryers

Washer dryers are generally less efficient for drying than standalone tumble dryers.

The drying capacity is often lower than the washing capacity, so you may need to remove part of the load before starting the drying cycle.

Tumble dryers

Tumble dryers used the older **Energy Label**, rated from A+++ to D until mid 2025. The rescaled A-G label is being used for new products and in 2026, this criteria will be updated.

They can be energy-intensive, so it's worth considering alternatives when possible.

Tips for reducing energy use:

- > Air-dry laundry on a clothesline or drying rack when weather and space allow.
- > If using a tumble dryer, ensure clothes are well-spun in the washing machine to reduce drying time and electricity use.



Criteria:

- > Washing machines:
 - Energy label rating of C based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.
 - Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): energy label rating of B based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.
- > Washer dryers:
 - Energy label rating of D based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.

(continued over)



- Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): energy label rating of C based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.
- > Tumble dryers:
 - Energy label rating of A+++ based on the A+++ to D energy label. This criteria will be reviewed in 2026 to include the new A-G rescaled energy label.



Criteria:

- > Washing machines: energy label rating of B based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.

Ovens, cookers and hobs

When assessing ovens and hobs for energy efficiency and indoor air quality, it's important to consider both the type of appliance, energy rating and the energy source used.

Ovens

- > Ovens still use the older **Energy Label**, rated from A+++ to D.
- > For ovens with multiple compartments, the **Sustainable Home Product** assessment applies to the larger compartment.
- > Only electric ovens are assessed under these criteria. Gas ovens are excluded due to their impact on indoor air quality.



Hobs

- > Only electric induction hobs are included in the assessment.
- > Gas hobs are **Watch Listed** under the **Protecting Health at Home** attribute due to their association with poor indoor air quality, including the release of nitrogen dioxide and other pollutants.

For cookers comprising a hob and oven, the oven should meet **SHP** criteria, and the hob should be induction.



Criteria:



- > Induction hobs. These consume less energy for cooking than other types of electric hob (**Agence de la Transition Ecologique**).
- > Ovens and cookers:
 - Energy label rating of A+ based on the current energy label (has not yet been rescaled).
 - Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): energy label rating of A++ based on the current energy label (has not yet been rescaled)
 - Please note that for both the standard and higher criteria, if the oven is sold with a hob, that hob should be induction.



Criteria:

- > Induction hobs
- > Ovens and cookers with an energy label rating of A++ based on the current energy label (has not yet been rescaled). If the oven is sold with a hob, the hob should be induction.

Refrigeration: fridges, fridge freezers and freezers

Because fridges and freezers run 24 hours a day, choosing an energy-efficient model is essential for reducing electricity use and long-term running costs.

Temperature matters

- > Refrigerators should operate between 3°C and 5°C:
- > Below 3°C: Increases electricity use and may cause food to freeze unnecessarily.
- > Above 5°C: Food may spoil due to inadequate cooling.
- > Use a fridge thermometer to monitor temperature. Many modern fridges now include built-in digital thermometers for convenience.



Choosing the right size

- > A smaller appliance may use less energy overall than a larger one, even if the larger model has a better energy rating.
- > Select a size that matches your household's needs to avoid unnecessary energy use.

Fridge freezers vs. separate units

Fridge freezers are typically more efficient than having separate fridge and freezer units.

As a result, the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria are set at higher levels for fridge freezers.

Energy labelling

These appliances are rated using the updated **EU Energy Label** (A to G scale).

The criteria used in these guidelines are based on the **Label 2020** project, which identifies the “efficient” level for each appliance type factoring in availability.

Wine coolers

Wine coolers are not included in the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria.

However, if choosing one, look for models with an energy rating of F or better, as recommended by the **Label 2020** project, to help reduce electricity use.



Criteria:



- > Fridge freezers (combined units):
 - Energy label rating of D, based on the rescaled 2020 A-G energy label.
 - Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): energy label rating of B, based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.
- > Refrigerators:
 - Energy label rating of E, based on the rescaled 2020 A-G energy label.
 - Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): energy label rating of D, based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.
- > Freezers:
 - Energy label rating of E, based on the rescaled 2020 A-G energy label.
 - Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): energy label rating of D, based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.



Criteria:

- > Fridge freezers (combined units):
 - Energy label rating of B, based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.
- > Refrigerators:
 - Energy label rating of D, based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.
- > Freezers:
 - Energy label rating of D, based on the rescaled A-G 2020 energy label.

Lighting

Lighting technology has evolved dramatically over the past two decades. We've moved from incandescent bulbs, which converted only about 5% of their energy into light, to halogens, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), and now to LEDs (light-emitting diodes - which are far more efficient and longer-lasting.

According to the European Union, continuing the shift to more efficient lighting could prevent around seven million tonnes of CO₂e emissions each year.

Lighting criteria

These guidelines cover both indoor and outdoor lighting used for general illumination. The criteria focus on energy efficiency and alignment with **Ecodesign Energy-related Products (ErP)** requirements.

Included:

- > Functional lighting for homes, including ceiling lights, wall lights, and outdoor security or pathway lighting.
- > Any lighting product required to meet **Ecodesign ErP** standards is considered functional and is included in the criteria.



Excluded:

- > Decorative effect lighting, such as string lights or novelty lamps, is excluded from the energy-saving criteria.
- > Previously, it was important to choose LED versions of decorative lighting (e.g. Christmas lights), but now that most are LED by default, they are no longer assessed under this attribute.
- > However, decorative LED lighting may still qualify under other **Sustainable Home Product** (SHP) attributes.

Important Note:

Lighting products supplied with single-use batteries are **Watch Listed** and cannot be assessed under the **Sustainable Home** criteria due to their environmental impact.



Criteria:



- > Lights required to meet **Ecodesign Energy-related Products** requirements (ErP), including lamps and light fittings:
 - Energy rating of F or better or the lumens per watt equivalent.
 - Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): LED lighting with a rescaled 2021 Energy Label (A-G) rating of D or better.
- > Solar and battery powered LED lighting:
 - Solar and battery powered LED lighting that is designed to provide functional lighting, including security lights and torches.
 - Excluded: lights (mains powered, solar or battery powered) that provide a decorative effect as opposed to providing functional light.
- > Products that enable LED lighting to be used, including drivers, transformers and dimmers

Decorative effect lighting is excluded and includes:

- > String lights, Christmas lights.
- > Decorative silhouettes and decorations.
- > Products that include a decorative light e.g. pre-lit artificial Christmas trees.



Criteria:

- > Lights required to meet **Ecodesign Energy-related Products** requirements (ErP), including lamps and light fittings:
 - LED lighting with a rescaled 2021 **Energy Label** (A-G) rating of D or better.
- > Solar and battery powered LED lighting:
 - Solar and battery powered LED lighting that is designed to provide functional lighting, including security lights and torches.

Power tools

While power tools may not consume as much electricity in the home as large appliances, their carbon footprint is still significant - especially when considering their full lifecycle. Research commissioned by Kingfisher highlights the importance of motor efficiency in reducing this impact.

Motor types and efficiency

Brushed motors use carbon brushes to drive the motor mechanically. This creates friction and heat, which reduces efficiency and can shorten the tool's lifespan.



Brushless motors in cordless tools use electronic controllers to generate a rotating magnetic field. These motors:

- > Operate more efficiently.
- > Generate less heat.
- > Provide longer usage time between charges.
- > Tend to have greater durability.

Power tools criteria

Tools with efficient, brushless motors are prioritised in these criteria under **Saving Energy at Home**.

- > Bare cordless power tools (sold without batteries or chargers) are also assessed under **Made using Lower Impact Manufacturing**.
- > There are also criteria for types of power tool based on repairability and specific functions (e.g. mulching mowers).

For **green star** recognition, power tools are assessed under the **Extending Product Lifecycles** attribute.

Any components containing wood or paper (e.g. sanding sheets) must comply with **Kingfisher's Wood and Paper** policy to ensure responsible sourcing.



Criteria:

Power tools with brushless motors.



Criteria:

Power tools with brushless motors (under attribute **Extending Product Lifecycles**).

Renewable energy

Increasing the use of renewable energy is essential for reducing carbon emissions and transitioning to a more sustainable energy system. These criteria focus on microgeneration technologies suitable for homes and small businesses, as well as energy storage solutions that help maximise the benefits of renewable energy.

Renewable Energy Criteria

The focus is on installed systems that generate renewable energy on-site, such as:

- > Solar photovoltaic (PV) panels.
- > Small-scale wind turbines.
- > Micro-hydro systems.
- > Battery storage systems are included, provided they are designed to be integrated with a home energy system. These systems help store excess renewable energy for use when generation is low (e.g. at night or during cloudy weather).
- > Products powered by renewable energy.

Exclusions

- > Solar-powered lighting is excluded from this category, as it is assessed under the **Lighting** criteria.
- > Any product that uses renewable energy but is **Watch Listed** cannot qualify under these criteria.

By supporting the adoption of renewable energy and storage technologies, households and small businesses can reduce their reliance on fossil fuels and contribute to a cleaner, more resilient energy future.



Criteria:

Solar:

- > Solar photovoltaic systems and components.
 - Solar PV panels.
 - Inverters and other components.
- > Solar thermal systems and components:
 - Solar rooftop water heaters.
 - Solar thermal panels and collectors.
- > Solar powered products (except solar lighting which is covered under the **Lighting** criteria).
- > Accessories designed to make more use of solar energy.

Wind turbines.

- > Renewable energy storage:
 - Thermal stores designed to work with renewable energy.
 - Battery stores, home batteries.





Criteria:

Solar:

- > Solar photovoltaic systems and components.
 - Solar PV panels.
 - Inverters and other components.
- > Solar thermal systems and components:
 - Solar rooftop water heaters.
 - Solar thermal panels and collectors.
- > Solar powered products (except solar lighting which is covered under the **Lighting** criteria).
- > Accessories designed to make more use of solar energy.

Wind turbines.

- > Renewable energy storage:
 - Thermal stores designed to work with renewable energy.
 - Battery stores.

Thermal efficiency

Improving a home's thermal efficiency is one of the most effective ways to reduce energy use, lower heating bills, and cut carbon emissions. Products that help prevent heat loss - such as insulation - play a critical role in making homes more sustainable.

Thermal insulation

Insulation helps keep heat inside during winter and outside during summer, reducing the need for heating and cooling.

According to the **Energy Saving Trust**, up to 25% of a home's heat in the UK can be lost through the roof if there is no insulation. Yet, around one-third of UK homes with lofts still lack adequate insulation.



In France, **Ademe (L'Agence de la transition écologique)** reports that in uninsulated homes built before 1974:

- > Around 36% of heat is lost through the roof.
- > About 31% through the walls.
- > 10% through the floor.

Because insulation is so vital to achieving carbon reduction targets, all insulation products are eligible under the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria.

If insulation products contain wood (e.g. wood fibre insulation) or paper (e.g. paper membranes), these materials must comply with **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy to ensure responsible sourcing.

Expanded polystyrene (EPS) and polyisocyanurate (PIR) insulation products are excluded from **green star**.



Criteria:



- > Loft, wall and floor insulation:
 - Includes slab, roll and loose insulation.
 - Insulated loft hatches.
- > Construction insulation:
 - Includes insulated plasterboard.
- > Multi foil insulation. This works by reflecting radiant heat back into a home.
- > Thermal liners for walls, thermal wallpapers.
- > Installed insulation services.



Criteria:

- > Loft, wall and floor insulation, excluding expanded polystyrene products:
 - Includes slab, roll and loose insulation.
 - Insulated loft hatches.
- > Construction insulation, excluding expanded polystyrene products.
- > Installed insulation services.

Draught proofing

Feeling a cold draught inside your home is a clear sign that warm air is escaping and cold air is entering - leading to discomfort and higher heating costs. Draught proofing is a simple and effective way to improve thermal comfort and energy efficiency.

Benefits of draught proofing

- > Reduces heat loss, helping to maintain a stable indoor temperature.
- > Improves comfort, especially in colder months.
- > Lowers energy bills by reducing the demand on heating systems.
- > Many draught proofing solutions are straightforward DIY projects, such as:
 - Sealing gaps around windows and doors.
 - Using draught excluders at the base of doors.
 - Applying weatherstripping or foam tape.



Criteria notes

- > Garage draught proofing is excluded from the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria.
- > **Green star** criteria exclude the use of aerosol expanded foam for draught proofing.

By addressing draughts, households can make meaningful improvements to comfort and energy efficiency with minimal cost and effort.



Criteria:



- > Letter box brushes, under-door brushes, door and window seals, chimney draught excluders.
- > Installed draught proofing services.
- > Expanding foam draught proofing.
- > Door curtains.
- > Draught excluder cushions.



Criteria:

- > Letter box brushes, under-door brushes, door and window seals, chimney draught excluders.
- > Installed draught proofing services.
- > Door curtains.
- > Draught excluder cushions.

Tools, fittings and accessories for installing thermal insulation and/or making it more effective

Proper installation is essential to ensure that thermal insulation performs effectively. Even high-quality insulation can underperform if not fitted correctly or if supporting components are missing.

These guidelines cover tools and accessories that:

- > Enable insulation to be installed in more homes or challenging spaces (e.g. loft stilts that allow insulation to be laid beneath raised boarding).
- > Enhance insulation performance (e.g. membranes that improve moisture control, vapour barriers, or air-tightness tapes).

These components help ensure that insulation:

- > Maintains its thermal properties over time.
- > Is protected from moisture, compression, or air leakage.
- > Can be installed in homes with structural or access limitations.

By supporting proper installation and performance, these accessories contribute to better energy efficiency, lower heating costs, and improved comfort.





Criteria:



- > Thermal cameras and detectors that highlight where measures should be taken to improve thermal efficiency.
- > Loft stilts that enable storage in an insulated loft.
- > Membranes that improve loft insulation performance by enabling better moisture regulation.
- > Cavity closers.
- > Insulation wall tie retaining clips.
- > Tools designed specifically for installing insulation.
- > Adhesives designed specifically for fitting insulation.



Criteria:

- > Thermal cameras and detectors that highlight where measures should be taken to improve thermal efficiency.
- > Loft stilts that enable storage in an insulated loft.
- > Membranes that improve loft insulation performance by enabling better moisture regulation.
- > Cavity closers.
- > Insulation wall tie retaining clips.
- > Tools designed specifically for installing insulation.
- > Adhesives designed specifically for fitting insulation.

Doors and windows

Doors and windows play a crucial role in a home's thermal efficiency, helping to retain heat in winter and keep it out in summer.

Understanding U-values

Thermal transmittance, measured in watts per metre squared kelvin ($\text{W/m}^2\text{K}$) and expressed as a U-value, indicates how well a window or door prevents heat loss.

The lower the U-value, the better the thermal performance - meaning less heat escapes through the material.

Material considerations

- > uPVC:
 - uPVC windows and doors have separate standards due to their strong thermal performance and durability.
 - However, there are environmental concerns related to the production and end-of-life disposal of uPVC, which are taken into account in the criteria.



> Wood:

- Any wood used in doors, windows, or secondary glazing products must comply with **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy, ensuring responsible sourcing and environmental stewardship.

Secondary glazing

Secondary glazing products are included in the criteria as a practical solution when replacing windows isn't possible - for example, in listed buildings or rental properties.



Criteria:



- > Glazed windows and glazed external doors:
 - $U_w \leq 1.6 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ for wood and metal frames.
 - $U_w \leq 1.3 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ for uPVC frames.
 - Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): $U_w \leq 1.2 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ for wood and metal frames only.
- > Unglazed external doors:
 - $U_w \leq 1.5 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ for all doors.
 - Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): $U_w \leq 1.2 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ for wood and metal doors only.
- > Installation services to fit doors and windows that meet the criteria for thermal efficiency.
- > Secondary glazing:
 - Secondary retrofit glazing solutions.
 - Glazing films for windows. These can help to make windows more thermally efficient by creating a double glazing effect and helping to draught proof the window. These films can be a comparatively low-cost solution to consider if replacing windows is not possible.



Criteria:

- > Glazed windows and glazed external doors:
 - $U_w \leq 1.2 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ for wood and metal frames only.
- > Unglazed external doors:
 - $U_w \leq 1.2 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ for wood and metal doors only.



Saving Energy at Home Watch List

- > Inefficient energy using products:
 - Air conditioning not meeting **Sustainable Home Product** criteria.
 - Specified kitchen appliances not meeting **Sustainable Home Product** criteria:
 - Dishwashers (energy label rating E or less).
 - Cooker hoods (energy label rating B or less).
 - Ovens (energy label rating A or less).
 - Hobs: non-induction hobs.

- Refrigerators and freezers (energy label rating F or less).
- Fridge freezers (energy label rating E or less).
- Washing machines (energy label rating D or less).
- Tumble dryers (energy label rating A++ or less).
- Washer dryers (energy label rating D or less).
- Space and water heaters not meeting **Standard Sustainable Home** criteria.
- Electric showers with energy label rating of B or lower.
- Non-LED lighting.

Gas powered heating systems, kitchen appliances and hot water heaters.

- > Products that do not meet thermal efficiency standards specified in **Sustainable Home Product** criteria:
 - Glazed windows and external glazed doors:
 - If uPVC framed: $\cdot > 1.3 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$.
 - If timber or aluminium framed: $\cdot U_w > 1.6 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$.
 - Unglazed external doors: $\cdot U_w > 1.5 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$.
- > Energy intensive products, including:
 - Wired type underfloor heating:
 - This is often sold as an accessory for tiled flooring as a mat.
 - Includes accessories designed solely for wired underfloor heating.
 - Electrical heaters not meeting the standards specified in Appendix 4. This includes:
 - All convector heaters, mobile fan heaters.
 - Outdoor heating and cooling (including patio heaters).
 - Saunas.
 - Greenhouse heaters and heated propagators.



Saving Water at Home

Water is a precious resource - and as climate change drives more extreme weather, including droughts and floods, managing water use at home is more important than ever.

How much water is used

We use water in our homes for washing, cleaning, cooking, drinking, flushing toilets, watering gardens, and laundry. The amount of water adds up to (average use per person per day):

- > UK: 150 litres
- > Spain: 130 litres
- > France: 128 litres
- > Poland: 98 litres

(Source: **Statista.com**)

Even if your home isn't on a water meter, heating water for showers and baths still uses energy - so reducing water use also helps cut energy bills and carbon emissions.

Ways to save water

- > Install water-efficient appliances and fittings, such as low-flow taps, dual-flush toilets, and water-saving showerheads.
- > Use rainwater for garden watering and outdoor cleaning.
- > Fix leaks promptly to prevent water waste.
- > Only run dishwashers and washing machines with full loads.

Climate resilience

Drought is estimated to cost Europe €9 billion annually (**GAR Special Report on Drought, 2021**). Flooding is also increasing due to changing rainfall patterns. To help prevent damage:

- > Keep drains and gutters clear.
- > Use porous surfaces in gardens to allow water to soak into the ground.
- > Address leaks quickly to avoid water damage and waste.
- > By using water wisely and preparing for extreme weather, households can reduce their environmental impact and protect their homes.



There are **green star** criteria relating to this attribute and details are shown alongside the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.



Contents for criteria in the Saving Water at Home attribute:

- > Using rainwater.
- > Using grey water.
- > Water efficient products.
- > Products that enable more efficient water use.
- > Addressing flooding.
- > Watch List.



Saving Water at Home

Using rainwater

Using rainwater in the garden is a simple and effective way to reduce demand on mains water and lower your home's environmental impact.

Treating and delivering mains water to drinking quality requires significant energy and resources. Using rainwater for non-drinking purposes - like watering plants - helps reduce this burden.

Storing rainwater can also help reduce the risk of flooding during periods of heavy rainfall by slowing the flow of water into drains and sewers.

Always use a securely fitted lid on rainwater storage tanks to:

- > Prevent accidents, especially involving children or pets.
- > Reduce the risk of mosquito breeding.

It is important to keep a secured lid over stored rainwater to reduce the risk of accidents and to reduce the risk of mosquitoes.

Rainwater criteria

These criteria include:

- > Rainwater storage tanks (e.g. water butts, underground tanks)
- > Accessories that make it easier to use stored rainwater, such as:
 - Tap kits.
 - Hose connectors.
 - Rain diverters.
 - Water butt pumps.

By making better use of rainwater, households can save money, conserve resources, and build resilience to climate-related water challenges.





Criteria:



- > Rainwater storage, including water butts (rain barrels) and rainwater storage tanks.
- > Accessories for rainwater storage, including diverters, taps and stands.
- > Watering cans.
- > Products designed to work with stored rainwater including:
 - Water butt pumps. These enable more uses for the rainwater stored in a water butt, for example, for cleaning.
 - Irrigation systems designed for use with stored water.



Criteria:

- > Rainwater storage, including water butts (rain barrels) and rainwater storage tanks.
- > Accessories for rainwater storage, including diverters and stands.
- > Watering cans.
- > Specified products designed to work with stored rainwater:
 - Water butt pumps.
 - Irrigation systems designed for use with stored water.

Using grey water

Grey water refers to relatively clean wastewater from household sources such as sinks, showers, and baths - excluding water from toilets, which is considered black water.

Reusing grey water can help conserve water and reduce utility bills. Several products are available to make this process easier. For instance, some systems connect a bathroom basin to a toilet cistern, allowing handwashing water to be reused for flushing. Other devices can siphon bath water for use in garden irrigation.



However, it's important to follow local public health regulations and best practices when reusing grey water. Always ensure it is handled and applied safely.



Criteria:



- > Combined toilet and basin units where water from the basin is used to flush the toilet.
- > Grey water siphons.



Criteria:

- > Combined toilet and basin units where water from the basin is used to flush the toilet.
- > Grey water siphons.

Water efficient products

Water usage levels for bathroom and kitchen products are assessed using the **Unified Water Label**, a voluntary scheme that helps identify water-efficient options.

Note: Bath taps are not included in this assessment. Since they are used solely to fill bathtubs, a faster flow rate is often preferred to reduce heat loss during filling.

Dishwashers and Washing Machines: While these appliances use water, their efficiency is covered under the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria in the Saving Energy at Home section. This is because their mandatory energy labels already include water usage data.



Bathtubs

Although showers are now more commonly used, bathtubs remain popular - especially in homes with young children. Modern bathtub designs can help reduce water consumption while still providing a comfortable bathing experience.

Capacity is measured to the base of the overflow, but in practice, most people fill a bath to about one-third of its full volume. Bathtubs with a capacity over 200 litres are subject to **Watch List** criteria, except those specifically designed for people with limited mobility.

Some bathtubs are sold with wooden frames. In such cases, the wood must be responsibly sourced in line with **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy.



Criteria:

Capacity in litres, calculated to the base of the overflow outlet.

- > 170 litres or less.
- > Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria in product assessment): 155 litres or less.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Showers

While showers are often seen as more water-efficient than baths, this depends on the type of shower head. High-flow shower heads can actually use more water than a bath.

These criteria focus on flow rate, but reducing the time spent in the shower is also an effective way to conserve water.

The criteria apply to:

- > Shower heads.
- > Mixer showers.
- > Products that include a shower head (e.g., bath shower mixers).

Note: Shower mixers sold without a shower head are not assessed under these criteria or the related **Watch List**.

If a shower has more than one head, the one with the higher flow rate is used for assessment.

Showers with a flow rate greater than 12 litres per minute at 3 bar pressure are placed on the **Watch List**.

Electric Showers

Because electric showers use electricity directly, they must meet both water and energy efficiency standards. To qualify:

- > They must have a flow rate within the specified efficient range.
- > They must have an **Energy Label** rating of A or better.
- > These requirements are based on research by TopTenUK and are referenced in the **Saving Energy Watch List**.



Criteria:



Flow rate assessed at 3 bar pressure. For showers with multiple heads, the assessment is based on the higher flow rate shower head.

- > Showers with flow of 9.5 litres per minute or less at 3 bar water pressure.
- > Higher criteria: Showers with flow of 8 litres per minute or less at 3 bar water pressure.



Criteria:

- > Showers with flow of 8 litres per minute or less at 3 bar.
- > Water pressure.

Toilets

Toilets are a major source of household water use. In France, **Le Centre d'Information sur l'Eau** estimates that the average toilet flushes with 9 litres of water. In the UK, Waterwise reports that around 30% of household water is used for flushing toilets.

Water efficiency for dual flush toilets is assessed based on the average flush volume, calculated using a ratio of three short flushes to one full flush.

These criteria apply only to products that include the flushing mechanism.

Note: Combined basin and toilet units are assessed under the **Using Grey Water** criteria.



Criteria:



Flush volumes are calculated for dual flush toilets on the ratio of 3 short flushes to 1 full flush.

- > Toilets with an average flush volume of 4.5 litres or less.
- > Higher criteria: Toilets with an average flush volume of 3.5 litres or less.
- > Composting toilets.



Criteria:

Flush volumes are calculated for dual flush toilets on the ratio of 3 short flushes to 1 full flush.

- > Toilets with an average flush volume of 3.5 litres or less.

Taps

Water efficiency applies to taps where users typically rinse items under a running flow - such as basin and kitchen taps.

Flow rate can be controlled through product design, using a combination of flow regulators and aerators. These features help maintain effective rinsing pressure while reducing water use.

Some modern taps include a water break feature.

This creates a resistance point in the handle movement, requiring the user to intentionally override it to access a higher flow rate. This is especially useful for kitchen taps, where both rinsing and filling are common.

Cold start taps, which help reduce unnecessary hot water use, are covered under criterion under the **Saving Energy at Home** attribute.

Note: Bath fillers are not assessed for flow rate efficiency. Since their primary function is to fill a bath, a higher flow rate is often preferred to minimise heat loss during filling.





Criteria:



Flow rate assessed at 3 bar pressure. If a tap is supplied with a water break, the flow rate is measured at the flow before the break.

- > Taps with flow rates of 8 litres per minute or less at 3 bar water pressure.
- > Higher criteria: Taps with flow rates of 6 litres per minute or less at 3 bar water pressure.



Criteria:

Flow rate assessed at 3 bar pressure. If a tap is supplied with a water break, the flow rate is measured at the flow before the break.

- > Taps with flow rates of 6 litres per minute or less at 3 bar water pressure.

Products that enable more efficient water use

Not all water-saving products use water directly - some help reduce the need for it. These products influence water efficiency.

Mulching & Soil Conditioning

Applying a layer of mulch over moist soil helps reduce water lost to evaporation and suppresses weed growth. Organic mulches, such as bark chippings, also enrich the soil as they break down.

- > Always apply mulch to moist soil.
- > The recommended depth is 7.5 cm.

Lawn mowers with a mulching function finely chop grass clippings and redistribute them over the lawn. This helps retain moisture and keep grass greener during dry periods - reducing the need for watering.

Adding organic matter like soil conditioner or manure improves the soil's ability to retain water. This can be done by spreading it on the surface or mixing it into the soil.

Important Notes:

- > All products must be checked against the **Watch Lists** before assessment.
- > Mulches or soil conditioners containing peat or non-compliant wood (per **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy) cannot be assessed.
- > Petrol-powered mowers or those with a low **L'Indice de Réparabilité** (repairability index) score are also excluded.





Criteria:



- > Woodchip, bark and other mulches made from organic matter.
- > Soil conditioner made from organic matter.
- > Manure.
- > Mulching accessories for lawn mowers.
- > Lawn mowers fitted with a mulching function.



Criteria:

- > Woodchip, bark and other organic material mulches.

Plants that are able to thrive with low levels of water

While all plants need moisture to survive, choosing species that can thrive in dry conditions can significantly reduce the need for garden watering.

These drought-tolerant plants are well-suited to low-water environments and can help maintain a healthy, attractive garden even during dry spells.

A list of suitable plant species is provided in [Appendix 5](#).



All plants require moisture. Opting for plants that can survive in dry conditions can help to reduce the need to water the garden and a list of plants that meet this requirement are listed in [Appendix 5](#).



Criteria:



- > Plants specified in [Appendix 5](#) as being suitable for dry conditions.
- > Grass seed specified to be suitable for dry conditions.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Garden watering

These criteria focus on keeping gardens healthy and green while using water efficiently.

Effective strategies include:

- > Targeting water at the roots, where it's most needed
- > Watering only when necessary, based on soil moisture or plant needs
- > Using efficient irrigation systems, such as drip irrigation or soaker hoses, which minimise waste

These practices help reduce water consumption while supporting plant health and resilience.



Criteria:

- > Trigger fittings for hoses that enable targeted, controlled watering.
- > Rain or moisture sensors.
- > Timers.
- > Micro irrigation systems.
- > Underground irrigation systems, soaker hoses.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Preventing and fixing leaks

Leaks and drips not only waste water but can also cause costly damage to homes.

According to **Le Centre d'Information sur l'Eau**, a **single dripping tap can waste up to 4 litres of water per hour**. If it's a hot tap, this also increases energy bills.

Waterwise estimates that a **leaking toilet can waste between 215 and 400 litres of water per day**, and that 5–8% of UK toilets may be leaking.

How to check for toilet leaks:

- > Toilet paper test: Dry the back of the toilet pan just below the rim and place a piece of dry toilet paper there. If it becomes damp after a few hours (without flushing), the toilet may be leaking.
- > Food colouring test: Add a few drops of food colouring to the cistern. If the water in the bowl becomes coloured after a few hours, there's likely a leak.



Prevention tips:

- > Install flood alarms or leak monitors to detect leaks early and prevent damage.
- > In cold weather, insulate pipes, taps, and water tanks to prevent freezing and bursting. Pipe insulation is covered under the **Sustainable Home Product** criteria in the **Saving Energy at Home** attribute.



Criteria:



- > Replacement toilet siphons and valves.
- > Tap washers.
- > Replacement tap cartridges.
- > Tap reseating tools.
- > Outdoor tap covers.
- > Cold water tank jackets.
- > Flood alarms and monitors.
- > Smart water controls and emergency shut off taps.



Criteria:

- > Replacement toilet siphons and valves.

Retrofit accessories and gadgets

A variety of retrofit products are available to help households use water more efficiently - without the need for major renovations.

- > Tap aerators are simple devices that regulate water flow and mix air into the stream. This reduces water use while maintaining strong pressure, making them ideal for kitchen and bathroom taps.
- > Washing up bowls or simply using a plug in the sink can significantly reduce water waste. According to **Waterwise**, this can cut water use by up to 50% during washing up.



These small changes can make a big difference in reducing water.



Criteria:



- > Washing up bowls.
- > Replacement basin and sink plugs.
- > Dual flush conversion kits and components for toilets.
- > Retrofit tap aerators.
- > Bath accessories that enable a portion of a bath to be used for bathing children, using less water than the whole bath.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Addressing flooding

With climate change increasing the frequency and intensity of heavy rainstorms in Europe, flash flooding is becoming a greater concern.

Products that help prevent or manage flooding can be assessed under the attribute **Saving Water at Home**.

Products designed to protect homes from environmental flooding - such as from rivers or surface water - may meet criteria under the **Protecting Health at Home** attribute.

Effective drainage

Preventing blockages in drains and sewers is essential for reducing flood risk. Common causes of blockages include:

- > Leaves and garden debris.
- > Improperly disposed items, such as wipes or fats, flushed or poured down drains.

Using products that capture and remove debris before it enters the drainage system can help prevent flooding.

Important note: Corrosive chemical drain cleaners are **Watch Listed** due to their harmful chemical content and are not eligible for assessment.



Criteria:

- > Gutter leaf guards, drainage with integrated debris guards. These can help to stop leaves and moss from blocking drains.
- > Drain guards ("baskets" for plugs), wastes supplied with drain guards.
- > Sink plungers, drain rods, enabling blockages to be cleared, removing the blocking material from the drainage system.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Addressing surface water flooding

One way to reduce the risk of surface water flooding is by choosing permeable surfaces in gardens and outdoor areas. These allow rainwater to soak into the ground and replenish the water table, rather than running off into drains and contributing to flooding.

In addition to using permeable paving or gravel, you can improve outdoor water absorption by:

- > Planting more vegetation, including shrubs, flower beds, and trees.
- > Maintaining a healthy lawn, which naturally absorbs rainfall.
- > Storing rainwater in water butts or tanks for later use in the garden.



These simple changes can make a big difference in managing heavy rainfall and reducing the risk of flash flooding.



Criteria:

- > Gravel and decorative aggregates.
- > Grids designed for use with grass or gravel to create a porous surface.
- > Semi porous bonded gravel and jointing compounds.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.



Saving Water at Home Watch List

- > Water intensive products:
 - Lawn sprinklers unless fitted with a timer.
 - Swimming pools, paddling pools and accessories.
 - Spa pools and accessories.
 - Water using toys.
- > Inefficient water-using products:
 - Baths with capacity over 200 litres.
 - An exception is made for baths designed for independent living, for example, walk-in baths.
 - Showers and shower heads with flow rates greater than 12 litres per minute at 3 bar pressure.
 - Includes bath shower mixers if a shower head is included.
 - Where a shower has multiple heads, the head with the highest flow is assessed.

- Basin and kitchen taps with flow rates greater than 8 litres per minute at 3 bar pressure.
 - Please note that there is no **Watch List** criteria for a bath filler's flow rate.
- Toilets with average flush volume greater than 4.5 litres.
 - Average for dual flush is calculated from assuming 3 short flushes to 1 full flush.



Supporting Biodiversity at Home

Nature is closer than you think. Whether you have a garden, a balcony, or just a windowsill, you can help wildlife thrive.

Even a single pot of lavender can turn a small space into a haven for bees and butterflies.

In the last 50 years, global **wildlife populations have declined by a staggering 73%, according to the World Wildlife Fund**. This loss is driven by climate change, deforestation, pollution, intensive farming, and urban expansion. But while the challenges are global, the solutions can start right at home.

You don't need acres of land to make a difference. A green space filled with flowers, shrubs, and trees - no matter how small - can support birds, mammals, and vital pollinators like bees and butterflies. Avoiding chemical pesticides and fertilisers helps create a safer environment for all creatures.

Want to do more? Try:

- > Planting native wildflowers
- > Adding a small pond or bird bath
- > Installing nest boxes or insect hotels
- > Growing herbs like thyme, mint, or chives that attract pollinators

Growing your own fruit, vegetables, or herbs is a powerful way to support biodiversity. It reduces packaging waste, cuts down on transport emissions, and gives you control over what goes into your soil. Plus, flowering crops like beans and apple trees provide food for pollinators.

Our choices indoors matter too. Products containing microplastics or disposable wipes can harm marine life when they enter waterways. Choosing peat-free compost and responsibly sourced wood helps protect habitats around the world.



There are **green star** criteria relating to this attribute and details are shown alongside the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.



Contents for criteria in the Supporting Biodiversity at Home attribute:

- > **Alternatives to conventional garden chemicals.**
- > **Reducing litter and other pollution entering the environment.**
- > **Plants.**
- > **Supporting wildlife.**
- > **Watch List.**



Supporting Biodiversity at Home criteria

Alternatives to conventional garden chemicals

Many conventional garden chemicals carry environmental risks, as indicated by their hazard labels. These products can harm wildlife, contaminate water supplies, and contribute to climate change. Fortunately, there are safer, more sustainable alternatives that support biodiversity and protect the ecosystems we depend on.



The impact of conventional chemicals

- > Synthetic fertilisers often rely on ammonia production, a process responsible for an estimated 1-2% of global CO₂ emissions.
- > Metaldehyde, once widely used to control slugs, has been found to pollute water sources and harm wildlife such as hedgehogs. Although now banned in the UK, it remains legal in parts of the EU.

Better choices for a healthier garden

- > Natural fertilisers like manure not only recycle organic waste but also enrich soil health and increase organic matter.
- > Ferric phosphate is a safer alternative to metaldehyde for slug control. It's effective and significantly less toxic to other animals.
- > Organic-approved products offer a safer route for pest and weed control, avoiding harmful residues and supporting soil biodiversity.
- > Weedkillers based on acetic acid or pelargonic acid. These are alternatives to synthetic weedkillers including glyphosate and 2-4D.
- > Biological controls are gaining popularity. These involve introducing natural predators - like nematodes or ladybirds - to manage pests in a balanced, eco-friendly way.

Alternatives to conventional garden chemicals criteria

Chemicals approved for use in organic gardening or farming applies to products approved as inputs to cultivation. Materials that have an organic certification may meet the organic standards criteria in Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials attribute.



SHP Criteria:



- > Biological controls.
- > Chemical products approved for use in organic gardening or farming (see Appendix 2 for schemes).

(continued over)

- > Acetic acid based weedkillers. Please note that these should only be used on paths, patios and driveways and should not be used on plant beds.
- > Pelargonic acid based weedkillers.
- > Manure:
 - Farmyard manure, chicken manure pellets.
 - Green manure seeds.
- > Landscape fabrics for weed control.
- > Ferric phosphate slug pellets.



Criteria:

- > Biological controls.
- > Chemical products approved for use in organic gardening or farming (see [Appendix 2](#) for schemes).
- > Manure: Farmyard manure.

Reducing litter and other pollution entering the environment

Litter and pollution don't just spoil our surroundings - they pose serious threats to wildlife and ecosystems. Fortunately, small actions can make a big difference.

The **RSPCA** receives an average of **10 calls a day about animals harmed by litter**. From tangled birds to injured hedgehogs, the consequences are real.

Communities across the UK are stepping up, with more people taking part in local litter picks to protect nature and keep public spaces clean.

According to the **Marine Conservation Society**, **around 11 million tonnes of plastic enter the ocean every year**. Shockingly, 1 million tonnes of this is already in the form of primary microplastics—tiny particles less than 5mm in size.

35% of these microplastics are estimated to come from domestic and industrial washing, where synthetic fibres shed into wastewater.

Switching to products that release less plastic, filtering out microfibrils and simply picking up litter are some of the ways we can act so that less pollution enters the environment.

Litter control

Litter picking tools like grabbers and hoops make clean-up easier and safer.

They're also helpful for people with limited mobility as an aid to independent living.





Criteria:



Litter picking tools and equipment.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Filtering microfibres

Laundrying textiles results in microfibres being shed. These microfibres often pass through wastewater systems, ending up in rivers, oceans and even the food chain. There is increasing concern that these microfibres persist in the environment, especially if made from synthetic materials and if treated with synthetic dyes, flame retardants or finishes.

Microfibres are a major contributor to microplastic pollution. But the good news is that filters work. Studies show that using the right tools during laundry can significantly reduce the number of microfibres released into the environment.



These criteria recognise two proven approaches to capturing microfibres during washing:

- > External filters: Devices that attach to your washing machine's wastewater outlet and trap microfibres before they enter the drainage system.
- > Microfibre capture bags: Specially designed laundry bags that hold synthetic garments and collect fibres during the wash. The bag is placed directly in the washing machine drum.

Both methods are simple to use and can dramatically reduce the environmental impact of washing synthetic fabrics. Advice should be given to the customer on responsible disposal of the collected filtered waste to prevent secondary pollution. Evidence of testing should be supplied.

Note: Washing machines used with these solutions must also meet the **Saving Energy at Home** criteria for energy efficiency.



Criteria:



- > Microfibre filters for washing machines, washing machines fitted with microfibre filters. These should be recyclable and show durability for at least 50 wash cycles based on the industry standard (ISO 6330) without damage or release any microplastic particles into the water themselves.
- > Laundry bags designed to capture microfibres. Bags should be supplied with (i.e. on the product page online) information to address the proper disposal of collected filter waste to prevent secondary pollution.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Water filters

Moving away from single use water bottles is one way to reduce plastic waste.

Where tap water is not recommended for drinking, a water filter can help to reduce the use of bottled water.

Where tap water is safe to drink, some people find that a water filter can make the water more pleasant tasting which can encourage switching to reusable bottles.

These criteria include jug filters and filters fitted as part of a tap.



Criteria:

- > Water filters that are designed to make tap water more palatable, or in locations where water is not potable, safer to drink. Single use consumable accessories are not included.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Plants

Our gardens, balconies, and outdoor spaces can become thriving habitats for wildlife - simply by adding more plants. Whether it's a flowering shrub, a fruit tree, or a window box of herbs, plants play a vital role in supporting biodiversity.

How plants can help wildlife

- > Pollinators like bees and butterflies rely on plants for nectar and pollen.
- > Birds use shrubs and trees for nesting and shelter.
- > Food plants such as apple trees and runner beans attract pollinators - and in return, those pollinators help the plants produce fruit.



Kingfisher uses expert sources such as the [RHS Plants for Pollinators list](#) and other trusted bodies to identify the best plants for supporting wildlife. You'll find these recommendations in [Appendix 5](#), including a dedicated list of plants that help nature flourish.

The **Royal Horticultural Society** (RHS) highlights many more advantages of adding more plants to our homes and gardens:

- > Improved air quality.
- > Reduced pollution.
- > Enhanced mental wellbeing.

Growing your own

Growing your own vegetables, fruit, and herbs has multiple benefits:

- > Reduces reliance on packaging and long-distance transport (lowering food miles)
- > Gives you control over whether to use chemicals
- > Supports pollinators through flowering stages (e.g. bean flowers, apple blossom)

There can be problems with non-native invasive plants. These are plants that do not pose a problem in their native habitat but when exported to a new habitat can cause problems. They may outcompete native plants, block waterways and be expensive to remove. The plant lists in [Appendix 5](#) include a list of Problem Plants that are **Watch Listed**.

Plants criteria

From the end of 2025, plants with peat in their compost will be **Watch Listed**. Plants include seeds, bulbs, corms and live plants.



Criteria:



- > All plants except Problem Plants specified on the Problem Plant List (see [Appendix 5](#)).
 - Includes houseplants because of links to wellbeing.
 - Includes pot-grown Christmas trees that can be planted outdoors after the festive season and potentially reused.
 - Please note that cut Christmas trees can qualify as **Responsibly Sourced Materials**. Includes seeds.
- > Higher criteria: specific plant types:
 - Plants that support nature (see [Appendix 5](#)).
 - These are species and varieties identified by expert bodies as being good choices to support wildlife.
 - Plants, seeds and trees that produce vegetables, fruit or edible herbs.
- > Equipment and products that support growing produce, extending seasons, making it easier or enabling smarter use of space:
 - Greenhouses and equipment except greenhouse heaters.
 - Cold frames.
 - Unheated propagators.
 - Raised beds, raised bed equipment.
 - Containers with built in water reservoirs.
 - Fleece protection for plants.



Criteria:

For **green star**, plants must be peat free.

- > Plants that support nature (see **Appendix 5**).
- > Plants, seeds and trees that produce vegetables, fruit or edible herbs.

Supporting wildlife

Our gardens and outdoor spaces are becoming increasingly important refuges for wildlife. With a few thoughtful choices, we can create habitats that support birds, hedgehogs, amphibians, and countless invertebrates.

Helping birds thrive

Modern building practices often reduce natural nesting sites for birds. We patch up old buildings, convert barns, and block access to roof spaces. Even the felling of old trees - often rich in nesting holes - can have an impact.



Installing nest boxes is a simple way to help. They provide safe spaces for birds to raise their young and can help offset the loss of natural nesting sites. Feeding birds also helps us connect with nature and support them year-round.

Making space for hedgehogs

Hedgehogs often need to roam across multiple gardens to find enough food like slugs, worms, and insects. But modern housing layouts can trap them in isolated spaces.

You can help by:

- > Raising fence panels slightly to allow hedgehogs to pass underneath.
- > Creating hedgehog highways between gardens.
- > This reduces the need for hedgehogs to cross roads, where they're at risk from traffic.

Creating microhabitats

- > Gabion baskets - wire cages filled with rocks - can provide shelter for amphibians and invertebrates in the gaps between stones.
- > Small ponds, even in containers, can support a wide range of wildlife. Dragonflies, pond-skaters, frogs, newts, and toads all benefit. These insects, in turn, support birds like swallows and house martins.
- > Note: Accessories for ornamental fish care are not included in these criteria.

Supporting wildlife criteria

Please note that these criteria do not include food & equipment designed for poultry, farm animals and pets. Any wood should comply to **Kingfisher's Forest Plus** policy.



Criteria:



- > Fences fitted with hedgehog gaps.
- > Gabion baskets.
- > Pond liners.
- > Wild animal care, including wild bird feeders, food and bird baths.
- > Wild animal habitats including nest boxes, swift bricks and insect lodges.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.



Supporting Biodiversity at Home Watch List

- > Chemicals that can harm wildlife whether sold as a chemical or present in another product:
 - Metaldehyde.
 - This has been used for many years in slug pellets but is toxic to wildlife (including hedgehogs) and pets.
 - 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2-4 D), a herbicide used in some lawn weedkillers.
 - It has been found to be toxic to earthworms, mammals, birds and bees.
 - Neonicotinoids. These pesticides have been linked to declines in bee populations.
 - Clothianidin, Imidacloprid, Thiamethoxam, Acetamiprid, Dinotefuran, Nithiazine, Thiacloprid, Nitenpyram, Sulfoxaflor.
 - Kingfisher does not sell flowering plants or seeds that have been treated with neonicotinoids at any stage.
 - Rodenticides.
 - Regulations exist in many markets to ensure that when used, impact on wildlife is limited. This is done by placing restrictions on many rodenticides (for example, limiting to professional use, limiting to indoor use).
 - Although it may be legal for customers to buy and use rodenticides (depending on local regulations), customers are encouraged to use a professional vermin control service.
 - Please note that the herbicide Glyphosate is **Watch Listed** under the **Protecting Health at Home** attribute as concerns about harm primarily relate to human health.
- > Problem plants, seeds and bulbs.
 - The **Problem Plant List** in **Appendix 5** specifies plants that can cause problems in the wider environment if they spread from our gardens. Examples include Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed.
- > Products that can cause environmental problems in-use or post-use:
 - Glitter where it has a high risk of entering the environment:
 - Glitter as a product.
 - Glitter on plants.

- Glitter in paints.
- Turf supplied with plastic mesh embedded.
- Artificial turf, artificial hedging and artificial plants designed for outdoor use.
 - There are issues with fragments of plastic entering the environment from these products.
 - In addition, some will replace live plants, reducing the potential for biodiversity in outdoor space.
- Plastic microbeads.
- Disposable wipes.
 - Even if described as “flushable” or “biodegradable”, wipes can cause problems with drainage and can be found in marine habitats.
- Single use PPE (including face masks).
- Disposable barbecues.
- Single use carrier bags.
- > Products linked to animal cruelty.
 - Sticky pads and glue boards used for rodent control.
 - Products that contain feathers or down unless responsibly sourced (certified recycled or certified by the **Responsible Down Standard/ Downpass/ Global Traceable Down Standard**).



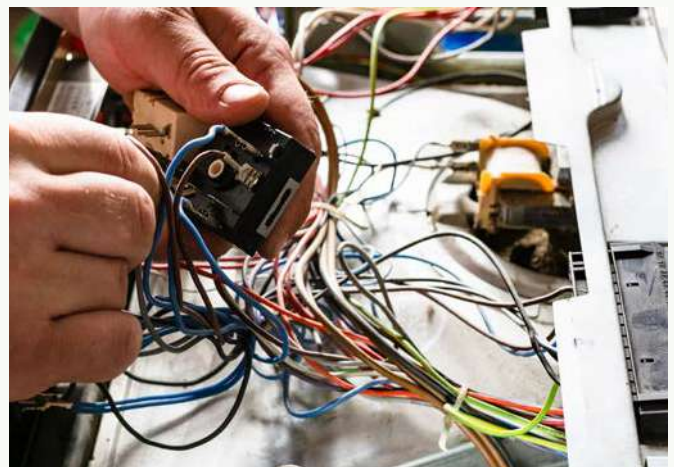
Extending Product Lifecycles

The circular economy aims to shift away from the traditional “take-make-dispose” model and move toward systems that design out waste, keep products in use for longer, and regenerate natural systems.

The waste hierarchy: Reduce, reuse, recycle

The familiar phrase “reduce, reuse, recycle” reflects a clear order of priority:

- > **Reduce:** The most effective way to cut waste is to consume less. Choosing higher-quality, longer-lasting products reduces the need for frequent replacements.
- > **Reuse:** Extending the life of products through repair, refurbishment, or second-hand use keeps them out of the waste stream. For example, rechargeable batteries reduce both waste and the frequency of replacement.
- > **Recycle:** Recycling is important, but it's the last resort. Even efficient recycling systems generate some waste and use energy. Still, recycling helps divert materials from landfill, incineration, and the natural environment.
 - Composting is a special case. While it's technically a form of recycling, it's often a better option for organic waste. Home composting turns garden and kitchen waste into a nutrient-rich soil conditioner, and it avoids methane emissions typically produced by landfill.



There are **green star** criteria relating to this attribute and details are shown alongside the **Sustainable Home Products** criteria.

Keeping products in use for longer

This attribute includes criteria that support durability, repairability, and reuse:

- > **Repairability:** Products designed to be fixed rather than replaced help reduce waste. Repair services and availability of spare parts are also important.
- > **Long warranties:** Encourage confidence in product longevity.
- > **Modular design:** Makes it easier to replace or upgrade parts instead of the whole product
- > Tools sold as “bare units” (without battery or charger) are covered under the **Made Using Lower Impact Manufacturing** attribute, as they reduce duplication and waste.



Contents for criteria in the **Extending Product Lifecycles** attribute:

- > **Composting.**
- > **Enabling reuse.**
- > **Product longevity.**
- > **Recycling.**
- > **Repairability.**
- > **Watch List.**



Extending Product Lifecycles criteria

Composting

Home composting is a simple and effective way to reduce the amount of garden and kitchen waste sent to landfill or incineration. It transforms organic waste into a nutrient-rich soil conditioner that improves soil health and structure.

Why compost?

- > Reduces waste going to landfill or incineration.
- > Improves soil by adding nutrients and organic matter.
- > Supports biodiversity by enriching garden ecosystems.

These criteria focus on helping customers compost waste at home, particularly:

- > Garden waste (e.g. grass clippings, leaves, prunings.)
- > Some kitchen waste (e.g. vegetable peelings, coffee grounds).

Compostability of products is not included in these criteria (except for food waste caddy liners). This is because:

- > Composting conditions vary widely (e.g. temperature, moisture, aeration).
- > Many “compostable” products only break down in industrial composting facilities, not in home compost bins.

Exception: Food waste caddy liners are included because some local authority collection schemes require them, and they are composted in industrial facilities.

No space to compost?

If home composting isn't possible - due to space, time, or other constraints - many local councils now offer garden and food waste collection services. These are a great alternative and help ensure organic waste is processed sustainably.

Composting criteria

Please note that compost activation chemicals are not included. Any wood should comply to **Kingfisher's Wood and Paper Sourcing** policies.

Composting toilets are in the toilets criteria in the **Saving Water at Home** attribute.





Criteria:

- > Compost bins, composters.
- > Bokashi bins.
- > Wormeries.
- > Compost collection caddies and compostable caddy liners.



Criteria:

Compost bins, composters.

Enabling reuse

Shifting from single-use products to reusable alternatives is a key step in reducing waste and supporting a more sustainable, circular economy.

From disposable to reusable

Take batteries as an example. Single-use batteries, if not properly recycled, can leach toxic chemicals into the environment.

Rechargeable batteries offer a better alternative - they can be reused many times, reducing waste and the need for frequent replacements.



Reuse in action

Reuse goes beyond just switching products - it includes:

- > Second-hand and refurbished items.
- > Product rental and sharing schemes.

These models help keep products in use for longer, reducing the demand for new materials and lowering environmental impact.

Rental

In the circular economy, ownership isn't always necessary. Renting tools and equipment is a great example as tools in rental schemes are maintained and serviced, allowing them to be used more frequently and for longer than tools bought for occasional use.

Refurbished products

Screwfix launched a refurbished tools range in 2022, offering tested and cleaned returned products as a sustainable alternative to buying new.

B&Q followed with a similar scheme in 2024.

Enabling reuse criteria

Please note that rechargeable power tool batteries are included in the **Spare Parts** criteria.



Criteria:



- > Reusable alternatives:
 - Reusable alternatives to specified single-use products:
 - Rechargeable batteries and chargers. Please note that power tool batteries are treated as spare parts.
 - Storage specifically designed for reusable plastic carrier bags.
 - Dust sheets designed for multiple use.
 - Reusable grow-bags.
 - Heavy duty garden clear away sacks and tear resistant rubble bags.
- > Refurbished products.



Criteria:

- > Reusable alternatives:
 - Reusable alternatives to specified single-use products:
 - Rechargeable batteries and chargers. Please note that power tool batteries are treated as spare parts.
- > Refurbished products.

Paying to use - alternatives to product ownership

The **Watch List** approach for **Sustainable Home Products** applies to rental services and refurbished products and petrol-powered tools cannot be assessed for these criteria.

For **green star**, rental has its own attribute.



Criteria:



- > Hire and rental:
 - Tool hire.
 - Product rental.
 - Van rental.
- > In-store cutting services.



Criteria:

- > Hire and rental:
 - Tool hire.
 - Product rental.

Product longevity

Improving the durability and lifespan of products is essential for reducing both waste and overconsumption. When products last longer, fewer resources are needed to replace them - and less waste ends up in landfill.

- > Longer-lasting products reduce the frequency of replacement.
- > This helps conserve raw materials, reduce emissions, and lower overall environmental impact.
- > It also offers better value for customers over time.



In these criteria, warranties and guarantees are used as a key indicator of product quality and durability. They provide a tangible commitment from the manufacturer and help customers make informed choices.

Note: Warranties should apply to the entire product, not just cosmetic elements like paint finishes.

There are also **Product Longevity** criteria for sheds based on research commissioned by Kingfisher examining environmental and use factors that influence longevity.

Long Warranty Criteria

When a long warranty is communicated to the customer, this represents a commitment from the manufacturer that the product is expected to be durable.



Criteria:

Products with a warranty of 10 years or longer.
Please note that the warranty should apply to the whole product.



Criteria:

Tools and other specified products with a warranty of 10 year or longer.

Plumbing fittings

Plumbing fittings that are compliant with EN1254 are designed for longevity. Compliance ensures that products are manufactured to a recognised standard, which enhances their reliability and safety in plumbing and heating applications. By conforming to EN1254, manufacturers demonstrate their commitment to quality. This compliance can influence warranty offerings, as products that meet these standards are often backed by longer warranties up to 50 years, reflecting confidence in their durability and performance.



Criteria:

- > Plumbing fittings with certification demonstrating that they have been tested and meet the standard EN1254-1 or BS EN1254-1.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Paint durability

The durability of paint plays a key role in reducing maintenance, waste, and resource use. When a painted surface stays in good condition for longer, it doesn't need to be repainted as often—saving time, money, and materials.

Painted surfaces are exposed to everyday wear and tear, including:

- > Dirt and stains.
- > Scrubbing and cleaning.
- > Moisture and environmental exposure.

Durable paints resist damage and maintain their appearance for longer, reducing the need for frequent touch-ups or full repaints.

How durability is measured

A standardised scrub resistance test is used to assess how well a paint holds up under repeated cleaning. This test simulates real-world use - such as removing a dirt mark - and helps compare the performance of different paint products.

Paint durability criteria

Please note that the paint must also not be **Watch Listed** (so must not be solvent based and/or have a medium/C classification for VOC emissions).



Criteria:

Wet scrub resistance test following ISO 11998 standard achieving Class 1 (less than 5 micrometres (5µm) lost from the surface of the paint after 200 cycles).



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Recycling

Products and services that enable recycling. This includes products designed to make recycling easier to live with by making the process simpler and tidier.

Recycling services are also included.

Recycling criteria

Please note that checks should be made for recycling services that responsible recycling is taking place following all relevant regulations and maximising recycling.

Food compost caddies and liners are included in the **Composting** criteria.



Criteria:

- > Split waste bins and modular multi-bin systems.
- > Recycling storage bags.
- > Recycling services, including skip hire and household collection.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Repairability

Designing products to be repairable is a key part of extending their lifespan and reducing waste. When customers can fix rather than replace items, it supports a more sustainable, circular economy.

This attribute covers a range of repair-enabling features, including:

- > Products designed for repairability.
- > Tools that help maintain or repair items.
- > Spare parts availability.
- > Access to repair services offered with the product.

These features help keep products in use for longer and reduce the need for premature replacement.

L'Indice de Réparabilité (Repairability Index)

Introduced in France in 2021 as part of anti-waste legislation, the **Repairability Index** (IR) is a mandatory rating system that evaluates how easy it is for consumers to repair certain products.



How it works

The index scores products from 0 to 10, based on:

- > Availability of repair instructions.
- > Access to spare parts.
- > Ease of disassembly and repair.
- > The score must be displayed on customer communications in France for applicable product categories.

Product categories (current scope relating to home improvement)

- > Electric lawn mowers.
- > Washing machines.
- > Dishwashers.
- > Pressure washers.

More categories are expected to be added over time.

Beyond France

Belgium has adopted the same methodology and categories.

The EU is considering a similar **Durability Index**.

Although the label is not currently used in the UK, Ireland, Poland, Spain, or Portugal, products assessed for Castorama or Brico Depot in France can have their scores recognised across all Kingfisher banners where the product is sold.

Watch List Note: Products with a **Repairability Index** score of 6 or lower are added to the **Watch List**.

This applies across all banners, just like high scores.



Criteria:



- > Products designed to enable easier repair with a **L'Indice de Réparabilité** (Repairability Index) score of 8 or higher.
- > Higher criteria (counting as a second criteria as well as standard): Products designed to enable easier repair with a **L'Indice de Réparabilité** (Repairability Index) score of 9 or higher.



Criteria:

- > Products designed to enable easier repair with a **L'Indice de Réparabilité** (Repairability Index) score of 9 or higher (only to be applied in France).

Repair services criteria

Making repair available as an option can help to reduce the risk of a product becoming waste.

If repair is offered beyond warranty for products as a service, the service may meet these criteria.

If a product is sold with a repair service availability of 10 years or more, the product may meet these criteria.



SHP Criteria:

- > Products that have a repair service available for ten years or more post-purchase.
- > Repair services.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Repair kits, maintenance and repair products criteria

Keeping products in good working order can help to keep them in-use for longer. This can help to reduce the need to buy replacement products, reducing waste.

These criteria apply to products designed specifically to repair. Products intended for minor or cosmetic repairs, and where the material would be unlikely to be discarded, would not be considered within this definition.



SHP Criteria:

- > Repair kits, and repair products:
 - Includes hose pipe repair fittings.
 - Tools designed specifically to repair.
 - Adhesives that are primarily for repair, but please note that these must not contain harmful chemicals (**see Appendix 3**).
- > Maintenance products:
 - Products and services that enable tools to be sharpened. Keeping blades, chainsaw chains and drill bits in use for longer can help to reduce waste.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

Spare parts criteria

A spare part is an interchangeable component that is functionally identical to and interchangeable with the item it is intended to replace.

Spare parts are not consumables. Consumables are intended to be used up and then replaced. Examples include trimmer lines and drill bits.

Products that are primarily purchased to initially install the product are also excluded. Examples include cistern close coupling bolts and door hinges.



Criteria:

- > Spare parts. Examples include:
 - Replacement toilet seat hinges.
 - Power tool rechargeable batteries.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.



Extending Product Lifecycles Watch List

- > Specified products sold with a warranty less than 5 years. These are products made from carbon intensive materials where the customer would expect longevity.
 - Shower trays.
- > Products with a **L'Indice de Réparabilité** (Repairability Index) of 6 or lower.
- > Single-use, disposable products where there is a viable and effective reusable alternative:
 - Single-use batteries.
 - Products supplied with single-use batteries.
 - An exception is made for smoke and carbon monoxide alarms if the manufacturer specifies single-use batteries for reasons of product efficacy.
 - Please note that cleaning wipes and single use PPE (including disposable face masks) are **Watch Listed** in the **Supporting Nature at Home** attribute.
 - Bin liners are not included in the **Watch List** as they are often specified as a requirement by municipal waste collection services.
- > Products that are effectively designed for single use where viable and effective reusable alternatives are available including:
 - Disposable chemical dehumidifiers.
 - Roller tray liners. The alternative is cleaning roller trays after use.

09

Mixed materials criteria



09 Mixed material criteria

These criteria assess products based on weight and combinations of positively defined materials.

For most **Sustainable Home Product** criteria, assessment of materials is based on the main material, defines as the material comprising 50% or more of the product by weight.

- > For example, if a shed comprises 70% polypropylene that is 90% recycled post consumer waste, $70\% \times 90\% = 63\%$, meaning that it is likely to meet the recycled plastics criteria threshold of 50% or over.

However, there are products that comprise many materials and although no single material that might meet **Sustainable Home Product** criteria comprises 50% or more of the product's weight, there may be a combination of materials that have positive attributes.

A complex product might comprise recycled plastic, responsibly sourced wood, an alternative material (such as cork) and a lower embodied carbon metal – it might be made up of a combination of positively defined materials.

To assess a mixture of materials, the bill of materials can be used to breakdown the content.

Example: Roller blind

Material composition (by weight):

- > 50% polyester, 90% of which is recycled post-consumer waste plastic.
 - **Made from Recycled Materials.**
- > 12% aluminium that meets the lower embodied carbon standards for aluminium in **Made using Lower Impact Manufacturing:**
 - Made using **Lower Impact Manufacturing.**
- > 38% other materials (steel and virgin uPVC).

Calculation:

- > Recycled plastic as weight of the whole product $50\% \times 90\% = 45\%$.
- > Lower carbon aluminium = 12%.
- > $45\% + 12\% = 57\%$ positively defined materials.

For this example, the criterion would be selected for Made from Recycled Materials as 45% is the largest amount of positively defined materials.

Please note that the **Watch List** applies to these criteria. As with all **Sustainable Home Product** criteria, the product is assessed, not the packaging. Composite materials are excluded as they have their own criteria.





Criteria:

Products where 50% or more of materials (based on product weight) meet **Sustainable Home Product** criteria for materials.

The criterion is classified under the **single largest material's Sustainable Home Product criterion**.

- > Mixed Materials: **Made from Alternative Materials.**
 - Includes cork, jute and bamboo.
- > Mixed Materials: **Made from Recycled Materials.**
 - Includes recycled plastic, recycled wood & paper, recycled copper and brass.
- > Mixed Materials: **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials.**
 - Includes responsibly sourced wood and paper, copper.
- > Mixed Materials: **Made from Lower Impact Manufacture.**
 - Includes lower embodied carbon steel and aluminium.



Criteria:

There are no **green star** criteria yet.

10 Appendices



10 Appendices



Appendix 1

Glossary of terms used in these guidelines



Appendix 2

Third party standards and certifications



Appendix 3

Unwanted chemicals list



Appendix 4

Electric heating



Appendix 5

Plant lists



Appendix 6

Point of View criteria lists



Appendix 7

Concrete

Appendix 1 - Glossary of terms used in these guidelines

Many of these terms are used in these guidelines. Additional terms have been included that are used widely relating to sustainability.

- > **Greenwashing.**
- > **Biobased ingredients and materials.**
- > Terms relating to the circular economy:
 - **Biodegradable.**
 - **Compostable.**
 - **Recyclable.**
 - **Recycled.**
 - **Reuse.**

Greenwashing

This term is used to describe misleading the public to believe that a company (or other entity) is doing more than it actually is to protect the environment.

There is increasing concern that this can promote false solutions and distract from credible action. Regulators in many markets are taking action to prevent greenwashing in marketing.

Biobased ingredients and materials

Biobased is a term used to describe chemicals, resins, binders and plastics that have been made from biological materials instead of fossil fuels. Feedstocks (the raw material for a biobased ingredient) can be categorised as:

1. First generation feedstock: plants (crops) that could be consumed by humans or by farmed animals.
2. Second generation feedstock: plants (crops) that cannot be consumed by humans or by farmed animals. These include wood and waste from crops (for example, straw).
3. Third generation feedstock: derived from algae.

Concerns include:

- > Land for growing food may be lost to growing crops for biobased materials.
- > Deforestation.
- > Traceability of raw materials.
- > Confidence regarding recycled waste claims.

Responsible sourcing schemes for biobased materials are addressing these concerns.

Terms relating to the circular economy

Biodegradable

“Biodegradability” is a term that describes how a material can be broken down by microorganisms. However, this may require specific conditions and varying timescales that can mean that in practice, the process cannot be guaranteed to occur. It may not be possible for customers to recycle biodegradable plastics.

As a claim, is a term that is being targeted by regulations that aim to address greenwashing”, including France’s Anti-Waste Law. “Biodegradable” is not a criteria in these guidelines.

Compostable

As with biodegradability, “compostability” describes how a material can be broken down by microorganisms, but specifically references composting as a process.

BS EN 13432 is used to specify compostability for packaging and there are some standards relating to this topic. However, even where this standard has been met, “compostable” may not guarantee that the material will break down in home composting where temperatures tend to be lower than in large scale industrial composting.

Even where home composting is specifically claimed, there have been studies finding that some products do not break down. “Compostable” is not a criteria in these guidelines.

Recyclable

A claim of “recyclable” indicates that a customer should be able to recycle the item. However, this depends on the waste infrastructure available to a householder and this can vary considerably even within a country.

It is a claim that is being targeted by regulations that aim to address “greenwashing”, including France’s Anti-Waste Law. “Recyclable” is not a criteria in these guidelines.

Recycled

Recycled content is waste material that has been reprocessed into a new product.

“Post-Consumer Waste” (PCW) recycled content refers to material that a consumer has used and disposed of.

“Pre-Consumer Waste” and “Post Industrial Waste” recycled content both refer to material that arises from manufacturing products that would otherwise be disposed of as waste.

Recycled content criteria are included in the attribute **Made from Recycled Materials**.

Reuse

Reusing a material means that no remanufacturing is required although repair and refurbishment may be required.

The product remains the same. Criteria relating to reuse include rechargeable batteries, product rental and refurbished products.

Appendix 2 - Third party standards and certifications

The following schemes are recognised in the **Sustainable Home Product Guidelines** as addressing key aspects of carbon emissions, responsible sourcing, reducing pollution and improving chemical safety.

The list includes schemes setting standards, mandatory labels and ISOs.

Please ensure that the 3rd party's requirements are checked and considered when using their logos.

The relevant attribute is listed for each scheme. The attribute sections in these guidelines specify these standards as criteria.

Most are positive attributes that are defined as a criteria. Some are minimum requirements where failure to meet a standard means that a product may be **Watch Listed** (for example, **Leather Working Group Gold** for leather sourcing).

Even if a product has one of these certifications, it cannot be assessed as having **Sustainable Home Product** criteria if it has a **Watch List** attribute or fails to meet all policy requirements.

Scheme	Scheme family	Scheme type	Products include	Attribute	Criteria
Agriculture Biologique		Product label or material certification	Textiles	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Organic schemes
Aluminium Stewardship Initiative		Vendor voluntary standard	Aluminium products	Made using Lower Impact Manufacture	Metals
BES6001	BRE Group	Vendor voluntary standard	Construction materials	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Construction Materials Responsible Sourcing
Better Cotton Initiative		Mass balance voluntary scheme	Textiles	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Cotton Responsible Sourcing
bluesign®		Product label	Fabric products	Protecting Health at Home	Specified third party chemical safety schemes
CARB2	California Air Resources		Board - including particle board, MDF	Protecting Health at Home	Formaldehyde
Copper Mark	Copper Mark	Material certification	Copper products	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Metals Responsible Sourcing

Scheme	Scheme family	Scheme type	Products include	Attribute	Criteria
Cradle to Cradle	Cradle to Cradle	Product label	Various	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Circular economy schemes
Cradle to Cradle Material Health	Cradle to Cradle	Product label	Various	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Circular economy schemes
Der Blaue Engel (also known as Blue Angel)		Product label	Various	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Type 1 Eco label
DIN-Geprüft biobased	TÜV Rheinland	Material certification	Biobased plastics and resins	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Biobased materials
EcoCert Ecodetergents	EcoCert	Product label	Detergents	Protecting Health at Home	Specified third party chemical safety schemes
EMICODE® EC1+	EMICODE	Product label	Sealants, adhesives, paint, flooring	Protecting Health at Home	Specified third party chemical safety schemes
Émissions dans l'air intérieur (A+ VOC label)		Mandatory product label	Various	Protecting Health at Home	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
Energy Label	Energy-related product (ErP) regulations	Mandatory product label	Various	Saving Energy at Home	Several including kitchen appliances and lighting
EU Eco label	EU schemes	Product label	Various	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Type 1 Eco label
EU Organic labels	EU schemes	Product label or material certification	Textiles	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Organic schemes
Fair Trade mark	Fair Trade Foundation	Product label	Various	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Ethical sourcing schemes

Scheme	Scheme family	Scheme type	Products include	Attribute	Criteria
Flamme Verte		Vendor voluntary standard	Wood burning stoves and boilers	Protecting Health at Home	Wood powered boilers, heaters and stoves
Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) 100%	Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®)	Material certification	Wood, paper, cardboard, rubber, cork, bamboo, cellulose, lyocell, rayon, viscose, acetate	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Wood, paper, cork, rubber, bamboo and other forest related products: Responsible sourcing
FSC® Mix	Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®)	Material certification	Wood, paper, cardboard, rubber, cork, bamboo, cellulose, lyocell, rayon, viscose, acetate	Made from Recycled Materials	Recycled wood
FSC® Recycled	Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®)	Material certification	Wood, paper, cardboard, rubber, cork, bamboo, cellulose, lyocell, rayon, viscose, acetate	Made from Recycled Materials	Recycled wood
Global Good Agricultural Practice (Global G.A.P.)		Vendor voluntary standard	Plants, Christmas trees	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Agricultural standards
Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)		Product label or material certification	Textiles	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Organic schemes
Global Recycle Standard	Textile Exchange	Product label or material certification	Plastics	Made from Recycled Materials	Recycled plastics
Good Weave		Product label	Rugs	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Ethical sourcing schemes
Green Seal		Product label		Protecting Health at Home	Specified third party chemical safety schemes

Scheme	Scheme family	Scheme type	Products include	Attribute	Criteria
Greenguard		Product label		Protecting Health at Home	Specified third party chemical safety schemes
International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC PLUS)		Material certification	Biobased plastics and resins	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Biobased materials
Intertek (ISO14067 only)		Vendor voluntary standard	Steel products	Made using Lower Impact Manufacture	Metals
ISO 17889-1:2021 “Ceramic tiling systems - Sustainability for ceramic tiles and installation materials - Part 1: Specification for ceramic tiles”	ISO	Vendor voluntary standard	Ceramic tiles	Made using Lower Impact Manufacture	Ceramic tiles
Leather Working Group Gold Standard	Leather Working Group	Tannery standard	Leather products	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Watch List
Low Carbon Manufacturing Programme (WWF Hong Kong)		Vendor voluntary standard	Various	Made using Lower Impact Manufacture	Schemes for manufacturers and factories
MPS-ABC		Vendor voluntary standard	Plants	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Agricultural standards
natureplus®		Product label	Building materials	Protecting Health at Home	Specified third party chemical safety schemes
NF Environnement		Product label	Various	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Type 1 Eco label
Nordic Swan Eco Label		Product label	Various	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Type 1 Eco label

Scheme	Scheme family	Scheme type	Products include	Attribute	Criteria
OEKO-TEX® Made in Green	Oeko-TEX®	Product label	Fabric products	Protecting Health at Home	Specified third party chemical safety schemes
OEKO-TEX® Organic Cotton	Oeko-TEX®	Product label or material certification	Textiles	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Organic schemes
OEKO-TEX® Standard 100	Oeko-TEX®	Product label	Fabric products	Protecting Health at Home	Specified third party chemical safety schemes
OK Biobased	TÜV Austria	Material certification	Biobased plastics & resins	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Biobased materials
Organic 100 Content Standard (OCS)	Textile Exchange	Product label or material certification	Textiles	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Organic schemes
Organic Farmers and Growers (OF&G Organic)		Product label	Garden chemicals	Supporting Biodiversity at Home	Chemical products approved for use in organic gardening or farming
PEFC® recycled	Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)	Material certification	Wood, paper, cardboard, rubber, cork, bamboo, cellulose, lyocell, rayon, viscose, acetate	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Recycled wood
Plante Bleue (Blue Plant)	Certifications du Vegetal	Vendor voluntary standard	Christmas trees, cut flowers	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Agricultural Standards
Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), Chain of Custody Certification	Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)	Material certification	Wood, paper, cardboard, rubber, cork, bamboo, cellulose, lyocell, rayon, viscose, acetate	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Wood, paper, cork, rubber, bamboo and other forest related products: Responsible sourcing

Scheme	Scheme family	Scheme type	Products include	Attribute	Criteria
Quiet Mark		Product label		Protecting Health at Home	Acoustic Insulation
Responsible Down Standard	Textile Exchange	Material certification	Feather, down	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Watch List
Responsible Steel		Vendor voluntary standard	Steel products	Made using Lower Impact Manufacture	Metals
Responsible Wool Standard	Textile Exchange	Material certification	Wool fabrics, rugs	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Wool: Responsible sourcing
Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB)		Material certification	Biobased plastics and resins	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Biobased materials
SGS		Verification for Certification Schemes	Steel products	Made using Lower Impact Manufacture	Metals
Soil Association Approved		Product label or material certification	Textiles	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Organic schemes
TCO Certified		Product label		Protecting Health at Home	Specified third party chemical safety schemes
Türkiye Çevre Etiket		Product label	Various	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Type 1 Eco label
TÜV Nord	TÜV Nord	Vendor voluntary standard	Steel products	Made using Lower Impact Manufacture	Metals
TÜV Rheinland	TÜV Rheinland	Vendor voluntary standard	Steel products	Made using Lower Impact Manufacture	Metals

Scheme	Scheme Family	Scheme Type	Products include	Attribute	Criteria
TÜV SÜD	TÜV SÜD	Vendor voluntary standard	Steel products	Made using Lower Impact Manufacture	Metals
Unified Water Label		Product label	Taps, showers, toilets	Saving Water at Home	Taps, showers, toilets
USDA Biopreferred		Material certification	Biobased plastics and resins	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Biobased materials
VOC Globe scheme	British Coatings Federation	Product label	Paints, wood treatments	Protecting Health at Home	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
Zinc Mark	Copper Mark	Material certification	Zinc and zamak products	Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	Metals Responsible Sourcing

Appendix 3 - Unwanted chemicals list

This Appendix contains a list of substances linked to environmental and health issues, based on assessments commissioned by Kingfisher and others.

Whilst these substances may be subject to current legal requirements, the substance classes quoted below are subject to further requirements by Kingfisher that go beyond the law for products which are in scope of this qualification criteria.

If substance elimination from products is not possible, care will be taken to ensure that any substance used in place of these unwanted substances will not lead to “regrettable substitution” in finished product.

The list of unwanted chemical substance classes includes but is not limited to the following:

- > Ortho-Phthalates .
- > Halogenated flame retardants.
- > Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS).
- > Isocyanates.
- > Alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEOs).
- > Substances of Very High Concern as defined by UK REACH.
- > Substances of Very High Concern as defined by EU REACH.

Legal requirements: Because of the dynamic nature of frequent regulatory updates, specific limit values and substances are available upon request.

Substance limit values (e.g. parts per million, ppm) required to meet the criteria are managed internally by Kingfisher and reflect levels which are lower than the law or for where the law has set an approaching substance limit compliance deadline (e.g. proposed law will implement stricter substance limit to be enacted in 2027).

Please note that Kingfisher Policy specifies that the following garden chemicals should not be used in products:

- > Neonicotinoids.
- > Metaldehyde.
- > Glyphosate.
- > 2,4-D.

Appendix 4 - Electrical heating

Although all electric heaters are theoretically 100% efficient, **Ecodesign for Sustainable Products** requirements employ efficiency calculations based on features that can reduce the amount of electricity needed to heat a room effectively.

Efficiency percentages are calculated according to the methodology in **Regulation (EU) 2024/1103** as regards ecodesign requirements for local space heaters.

The formula to calculate the efficiency percentage is as follows:

$$\eta S \text{ (efficiency percentage)} = \text{nson/CC.}$$

CC is a conversion coefficient = 1.9.

$$\eta \text{son} = \eta \text{sth.nom} \times (0.75 + F(2) + F(3)) \times F(4) \times F(5).$$

- > For electric local space heaters nsth.nom = 100%.
- > F(2) is a correction factor accounting for a positive contribution to the seasonal space heating energy efficiency due to adjusted contributions of controls of indoor heating comfort, which can be applied only once;
- > F(3) is a correction factor accounting for a positive contribution to the seasonal space heating energy efficiency due to adjusted contributions of controls for indoor heating comfort, the values of which can be added to each other;
- > F(4) is a correction factor related to standby power (=1 for electric heating).
- > F(5) is a correction factor related to presence of a pilot light (N/A for electric heating).

'F2' correction factors are as follows:

F2	Portable	Fixed
Single stage heat output, no room temperature control	0.000	0.000
Two or more manual stages, no temperature control	0.025	0.000
With mechanic thermostat room temperature control	0.100	0.025
With electronic room temperature control	0.160	0.050
With electronic room temperature control plus day timer	0.170	0.095
With electronic room temperature control plus week timer	0.190	0.150

'F3' correction factors are as follows:

F3	Portable	Fixed
Room temperature control with presence detection	0.005	0.000
Room temperature control with open window detection	0.005	0.020
With distance control option (e.g. Wifi)		0.020
With adaptive start control	0.005	0.020
With working time limitation	0.005	
With black bulb sensor		
With self-learning functionality		0.020
Control accuracy (CA) < 2 Kelvin and CSD (control to setpoint deviation) < 2 Kelvin	0.020	0.020

Appendix 5 - Plant lists

Plants can have a positive impact on our environment, supporting pollinating insects and other wildlife.

The **Supporting Biodiversity at Home Plant List** is built from information from expert sources including the [Royal Horticultural Society's Plants for Pollinators list](#), the [NGO Plantlife](#) and [RSPB](#).

Please note that Kingfisher policy states that flowering plants are not sold by Kingfisher banners if neonicotinoid pesticides have been used at any stage of the plant's growth.

As we adapt to climate change, plants that can thrive despite lower rainfall will be increasingly useful for gardeners who want to enjoy a greener garden. All plants need water, but some are better able to survive dry conditions. The **Saving Water at Home** plant list is based on plants suggested by the **RHS** as being suitable for dry conditions.

Although most plants can have a positive impact, there are some species and varieties that can cause problems when they enter natural environments. This can occur, for example, if seeds from a garden plant spread outside a garden.

Examples of Non-Native Invasive Plants that can cause environmental problems include:

- > Himalayan Balsam is causing problems in UK waterways, out competing other plant species and blocking channels.
- > Chilean Rhubarb (*Gunnera tinctoria*) is causing problems on the west coast of Ireland, shading and out-competing almost all other plants.

The list of Problem Plants is based on non-native invasive plants and in addition to being **Watch Listed** in these Guidelines under **Supporting Nature at Home**, these species should not be sold by Kingfisher banners because of Kingfisher policy.

The list of Problem Plants is built from information from expert sources including the [EU List of Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern, European Communities \(Birds and Natural Habitats\) Regulations \(S.I. No 477\) Schedule 3: Part 1](#) and the [NGO Plantlife](#).

References for all plant lists:

1. [RHS Plants for Pollinators](#).
2. [RHS Drought-resistant plants](#).
3. RSPB: "[Grow a Tree for Wildlife](#)".
4. Wildlife Trusts: "[How to make a shrub garden for wildlife](#)".
5. Plantlife.
6. EU List of Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern.
7. European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations (S.I. No 477) Schedule 3: Part 1.
8. [RHS: Invasive non-native plants](#).



Contents:

- > [Plant list 1: Supporting Biodiversity at Home: Plants that support wildlife.](#)
- > [Plant list 2: Saving Water at Home – Plants suitable for dry conditions.](#)
- > [Plant list 3: Problem Plants.](#)

Plant list 1: Supporting Biodiversity at Home: Plants that support wildlife

This list includes plants that support pollinating insects and plants that support birds (for example, due to the type of fruit and/or nesting habitat).

Species (and variety where only specified varieties qualify)	Plant type	Reason	Reference
Allium, all except Allium paradoxum and Allium triquetrum	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Alyssum	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Aubrieta	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Aquilegia, all	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Bell flower (Campanula)	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Berberis	Shrub	Supporting birds	4
Birch	Tree	Support many species of insect	3
Box, Buxus sempervirens	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1
Buddleia, Buddleja davidii, Buddleja globosa	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1
California lilac, Ceanothus species	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1
Candytuft, Iberis saxatilis, Iberis sempervirens	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Catmint, Nepeta species	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Coneflower, Rudbeckia	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Cornelian cherry, Cornus mas	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1
Cornflower	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Cosmos, Cosmos bipinnatus, Cosmos sulphureus	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Cowslip	Native wildflower	Support pollinating insects	1

Species (and variety where only specified varieties qualify)	Plant type	Reason	Reference
Crab apple	Tree	Supports pollinating insects and fruits support birds	1,3
Crocus	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Dahlias, single flowered varieties	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Dogwood, Cornus sanguinea	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Echinacea, Echinacea purpurea	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Elder, Sambucus nigra	Shrub	Supports pollinating insects and fruits support bird	4
Elephants Ear, Bergenia species	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Evening Primrose, Oenothera species	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Firethorn, Pyracantha	Shrub	Supports pollinating insects and fruits support birds	1
Foxglove, Digitalis species	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
French Marigold, Calendula officinali, Tagetes patula	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Geum	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Grape Hyacinth	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Guelder rose – Viburnum opulus	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1,4
Gypsophila, Gypsophila elegans	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Hardy Geraniums (cranesbill)	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Hawthorn, Crataegus monogyna	Shrub	Supports many species of insect, berries are food for many bird species	1,3
Heather (Erica, Calluna spp)	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1,4
Hebe	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1, 4
Helenium	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Hellebore (Lenten Rose)	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1

Species (and variety where only specified varieties qualify)	Plant type	Reason	Reference
Holly	Tree	Supports many species of insect, berries are food for many bird species	1,3, 4
Hollyhock, <i>Alcea rosea</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Honesty, <i>Lunaria annua</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Honeysuckle, <i>Lonicera periclymenum</i> , <i>Lonicera x purpusii</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1, 4
Ivy, <i>Hedera helix</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1, 4
Japanese anemone, <i>Anemone x hybrida</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Japanese quince, <i>Chaenomeles</i> species	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1
Knapweed, <i>Centaurea</i> spp	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Larkspur, <i>Delphinium elatum</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Lavender, all including French, English and Dentata	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1, 4
Love-in-a-Mist, <i>Nigella</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Michaelmas daisy, <i>Aster novi-belgii</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Nasturtium, <i>Tropaeolum majus</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Nicotiana, <i>Nicotiana sylvestris</i> , <i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Oregon grape, <i>Mahonia</i>	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1
Ox-eye daisy, <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Phlox, <i>Phlox paniculata</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Pieris, <i>Pieris formosa</i> , <i>Pieris japonica</i>	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1
Pinks, <i>Dianthus</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Poached egg flower, <i>Limnathes douglasii</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Poppy, <i>Papaver rhoeas</i> , <i>Papaver orientale</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1

Species (and variety where only specified varieties qualify)	Plant type	Reason	Reference
Primrose, <i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Privet, <i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1,4
Roses, all bar <i>Rosa rugosa</i>	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1
Rowan	Tree	Supports many species of insect, berries are food for many bird species	3
Salvia, all	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Scabious, <i>Knautia arvensis</i> , <i>Knautia macedonic</i> , <i>Scabiosa atropurpurea</i> , <i>Scabiosa caucasica</i> , <i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Shasta daisy, <i>Leucanthemum x superbum</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Skimmia, <i>Skimmia japonica</i>	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1,4
Snapdragon, <i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Snowdrop, <i>Galanthus nivalis</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Sunflower, <i>Helianthus annuus</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Sweet Box, <i>Sarcococca confusa</i>	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1,4
Sweet William, <i>Dianthus barbatus</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Teasel, <i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Thrift, <i>Armeria maritima</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Tickseed, <i>Coreopsis verticillate</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Verbena, <i>Verbena bonariensis</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Veronica, <i>Veronica longifolia</i> , <i>Veronica spicata</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Wallflower, <i>Erysimum species</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1
Weigelia, <i>Weigela florida</i>	Shrub	Support pollinating insects	1
Yarrow, <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Flowering plant	Support pollinating insects	1

Plant list 2: Saving Water at Home – Plants suitable for dry conditions

These are plants that require comparatively less watering than many other garden plants.

Species (and variety where only specified varieties qualify)	Plant type	Reason	Reference
Cabbage palm, Cordyline	Perennial	Able to thrive with less watering than many plants	2
Pelargonium (all types)	Flowering plant	Able to thrive with less watering than many plants	2
Juniperus	Shrub	Able to thrive with less watering than many plants	2
Rock rose (Cistus)	Shrub	Able to thrive with less watering than many plants	2
Russian sage (Perovskia)	Shrub	Able to thrive with less watering than many plants	2

Plant list 3: Problem plants

These plants are all **Watch Listed** under the attribute **Supporting Biodiversity at Home**.

The list is also referenced in **Kingfisher's Environment policy**. It is taken from a list collated by the [RHS based on regulations in the EU and UK](#).

Species (and variety where only specified varieties qualify)	Latin name	
Alligator weed	Alternanthera philoxeroides	New
Australian swamp stonecrop, New Zealand pygmyweed	Crassula helmsii	
Balloon vine	Cardiospermum grandiflorum	New
Broad leaved rush	Juncus planifolius	
Broadleaf watermilfoil	Myriophyllum heterophyllum	
Broomsedge	Andropogon virginicus	New
Cape pondweed	Aponogeton distachyos	
Carolina Fanwort, Carolina water shield	Cabomba caroliniana	
Chinese shrub clover	Lespedeza cuneata	New
Chinese tallow tree	Triadica sebifera	New

Species (and variety where only specified varieties qualify)		
Climbing fern	Lygodium japonicum	New
Cord grasses	Spartina spp. and hybrids	New
Crimson fountain grass	Pennisetum setaceum	New
Curly waterweed	Lagarosiphon major	
Duck potato	Sagittaria latifolia	
Dwarf eelgrass	Zostera japonica	New
Few flowered leek	Allium paradoxum	
Floating pennywort	Hydrocotyle ranunculoides	
Fringed waterlily	Nymphoides peltate	
Giant reed	Arundo donax	New
Giant rhubarbs: Brazilian giant rhubarb Chilian rhubarb	Gunnera manicata Gunnera tinctoria	
Giant salvinia	Salvinia molesta	
Golden wreath wattle	Acacia saligna	New
Himalayan balsam	Impatiens glandulifera	
Hogweeds: Giant hogweed Persian hogweed Sosnowsky's hogweed	Heracleum mantegazzianum Heracleum persicum Heracleum sosnowskyi	
Hottentot fig	Carpobrotus edulis	
Japanese honeysuckle	Lonicera japonica	New
Japanese hop	Humulus scandens	New
Japanese rose	Rosa rugosa	
Japanese stiltgrass	Microstegium vimineum	New

Species (and variety where only specified varieties qualify)		
Knotweeds: Japanese knotweed Hybrid knotweed Giant knotweed Himalayan knotweed	Fallopia japonica, Reynoutria japonica Fallopia japonica × Fallopia sachalinensis [F. × bohemica], Reynoutria × bohemica Fallopia sachalinensis, Reynoutria sachalinensis Persicaria wallichii, Koenigia polystachya	
Kudzu	Pueraria montana var. lobata	New
Large flowered waterweed	Egeria densa	
Mesquite	Prosopis juliflora	New
Mile-a-minute	Polygonum perfoliatum, Persicaria perfoliata	
Milkweed	Asclepias syriaca	New
Montbretia	Crocasmia × crocosmiiflora	New
Parrot's feather	Myriophyllum aquaticum	
Parthenium weed	Parthenium hysterophorus	New
Perfoliate alexanders	Smyrnum perfoliatum	
Pirri pirri bur	Acaena spp.	
Purple dewplant	Disphyma crassifolium	
Purple pampas grass	Cortaderia jubata	
Purple veldtgrass	Ehrharta calycina	
Rhododendron: specified types Yellow azalea	Rhododendron luteum Rhododendron ponticum, Rhododendron ponticum × Rhododendron maximum	
Salmonberry	Rubus spectabilis	
Sea buckthorn	Hippophae rhamnoides	
Senegal tea	Gymnocoronis spilanthoides	New
Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica	

Species (and variety where only specified varieties qualify)		
Specified cotoneaster species: Entire-leaved cotoneaster Small-leaved cotoneaster Himalayan cotoneaster	Cotoneaster bullatus Cotoneaster horizontalis Cotoneaster integrifolius Cotoneaster microphyllus Cotoneaster simonsii	
Three cornered leek	Allium triquetrum	
Tree groundsel	Baccharis halimifolia	New
Tree of heaven	Ailanthus altissima	
Variegated yellow archangel	Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. Argentatum, Lamium galeobdolon 'Florentinum'	
Virginia creepers: False virginia creeper Virginia creeper	Parthenocissus inserta Parthenocissus quinquefolia	
Water chestnut	Trapa natans	
Water fern	Azolla filiculoides	
Water hyacinth	Eichhornia crassipes	
Water lettuce	Pistia stratiotes	
Water primroses: Water primrose Creeping water primrose, floating water primrose:	Ludwigia grandiflora, Ludwigia uruguayensis (syn. Ludwigia grandiflora subsp. hexapetala) Ludwigia peploides	
Water soldier	Stratiotes aloides	New
Waterweeds	Elodea nuttallii, Elodea spp	
Yellow skunk cabbage	Lysichiton americanus	

Appendix 6 - Point of View criteria lists

Abbreviations used:

> Attributes:

- Made from Alternative Materials	ALT
- Made from Recycled Materials	REC
- Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials	RES
- Made Using Lower Impact Manufacture	MFR
- Protecting Health at Home	PHH
- Saving Energy at Home	ENR
- Saving Water at Home	WAT
- Supporting Biodiversity at Home	BIO
- Extending Product Lifecycles	EXT

		Point of View (POV)				
Criteria	Attribute	 Carbon	 Circularity	 Biodiversity	 Energy saving	 Water saving
Hemp	ALT					
Jute (hessian)	ALT					
Linen	ALT					
Lyocell	ALT					
Raffia (also spelt as Raphia)	ALT					
Ramie	ALT					
Sisal	ALT					
Peat free compost	ALT					
Bagasse	ALT					
Bamboo	ALT					
Banana - fibre and leaves	ALT					
Brushwood (heather)	ALT					
Cellulose as a sponge	ALT					

		Point of View (POV)				
Criteria	Attribute	 Carbon	 Circularity	 Biodiversity	 Energy saving	 Water saving
Coconut fibre, including coir	ALT					
Cork	ALT					
Loofah as a scrubbing product	ALT					
Pinecones	ALT					
Rattan	ALT					
Reed	ALT					
Water hyacinth	ALT					
Hazel	ALT					
Mango wood	ALT					
Olive wood	ALT					
Rice husks	ALT					
Rubberwood	ALT					
Straw, strawboard	ALT					
Willow	ALT					
Seaweed	ALT					
Recycled aggregate	REC					
Recycled plaster	REC					
Recycled cotton	REC					
Recycled textiles	REC					
Recycled glass fibre	REC					
Recycled brass	REC					
Recycled copper	REC					
Recycled plastics	REC					
Recycled paper and board	REC					

		Point of View (POV)				
Criteria	Attribute	 Carbon	 Circularity	 Biodiversity	 Energy saving	 Water saving
Recycled wood	REC					
Reused wood	REC					
Der Blaue Engel (also known as Blue Angel)	RES					
EU Eco Label	RES					
NF Environnement	RES					
Nordic Swan	RES					
Türkiye Çevre Etiket	RES					
Global Good Agricultural Practice (Global G.A.P.)	RES					
MPS-ABC	RES					
Plante Bleue	RES					
Biobased materials and plastics	RES					
Cradle to Cradle	RES					
Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)	RES					
Organic 100 Content Standard (OCS)	RES					
Soil Association Approved	RES					
EU Organic Label	RES					
Agriculture Biologique	RES					
Oeko-TEX® Organic Cotton	RES					
Composite materials	RES					
Cotton	RES					
Metals	RES					

		Point of View (POV)				
Criteria	Attribute	 Carbon	 Circularity	 Biodiversity	 Energy saving	 Water saving
Wood, paper, cork, rubber, bamboo and other forest related products	RES					
Wool	RES					
Low Carbon Manufacturing Programme (World Wildlife Fund, Hong Kong)"	MFR					
Dope dyeing	MFR					
Cement and concrete	MFR					
Ceramic tiles	MFR					
Aluminium	MFR					
Steel	MFR					
Stainless steel	MFR					
Bare cordless tools sold as part of a modular range	MFR					
Barbecues	PHH					
Wood powered boilers, heaters and stoves	PHH					
Alternatives to potentially toxic chemical products	PHH					
Specified third party chemical safety schemes	PHH					
Alternatives to energy using products	ENR					
Shading (shutters, awnings, window treatments)	ENR					
Comfort fans	ENR					

		Point of View (POV)				
Criteria	Attribute	 Carbon	 Circularity	 Biodiversity	 Energy saving	 Water saving
Air conditioning	ENR					
Smart home systems	ENR					
Heating and hot water controls	ENR					
Thermometers	ENR					
Controlling electrical devices	ENR					
Heat pumps	ENR					
Mechanical ventilation with heat recovery	ENR					
Electric boilers	ENR					
Electric heaters	ENR					
Water heaters	ENR					
Space and water heating efficiency	ENR					
Insulating heating and hot water systems	ENR					
Cooker hoods range hoods	ENR					
Dishwashers	ENR					
Laundry: washing machines and tumble dryers	ENR					
Ovens, cookers and hobs	ENR					
Refrigeration: fridges, fridge freezers and freezers	ENR					
Lighting	ENR					
Power tools with brushless motors	ENR					
Renewable energy	ENR					

		Point of View (POV)				
Criteria	Attribute	 Carbon	 Circularity	 Biodiversity	 Energy saving	 Water saving
Thermal insulation	ENR					
Draught proofing	ENR					
Tools, fittings and accessories for installing thermal insulation and/or making it more effective	ENR					
Doors and windows	ENR					
Using rainwater	WAT					
Using grey water	WAT					
Bathtubs	WAT					
Showers	WAT					
Toilets	WAT					
Taps	WAT					
Mulching and soil conditioning	WAT					
Plants that are able to thrive with low levels of water	WAT					
Garden watering	WAT					
Preventing and fixing leaks	WAT					
Retrofit accessories and gadgets	WAT					
Effective drainage	WAT					
Addressing surface water flooding	WAT					
Alternatives to conventional garden chemicals	BIO					
Litter control	BIO					

		Point of View (POV)				
Criteria	Attribute	 Carbon	 Circularity	 Biodiversity	 Energy saving	 Water saving
Filtering microfibres	BIO					
Water filters	BIO					
Plants	BIO					
Supporting wildlife	BIO					
Composting	EXT					
Enabling reuse	EXT					
Paying to use - alternatives to product ownership	EXT					
L'Indice de Réparabilité (Repairability Index)	EXT					
Repair services	EXT					
Spare parts	EXT					

In 2025, Kingfisher introduced a point-of-view (POV) approach to align Kingfisher’s internal strategy with the nine core attributes of the Sustainable Home Product Guidelines. This framework is designed to align with five key sustainability focus areas identified by Kingfisher to communicate its key sustainability priorities.

Appendix 7 - Concrete

Concrete products (ready-mixed, dry products and pre-cast products) of the specified strength class grade have an embodied carbon (A1-A3, cradle-to-gate) less than or equal to the limits in the below table.

Strength class	Embodied carbon (kgCO ₂ e/m ³)	
	SHP status (B sustainable)	SHP status (A sustainable)
C6/8	100	75
C8/10	120	95
C12/15	140	115
C16/20	160	135
C20/25	180	155
C25/30	200	175
C28/35	220	195
C30/37	240	215
C32/40	260	235
C35/45	280	255
C40/50	300	275
C45/55	320	295

Evidence of the embodied carbon figure to be demonstrated through an externally verified product level **EPD** (or equivalent, as determined by Bioregional).

Future Review: These thresholds will be reviewed in 2026 to align with the sector’s decarbonisation roadmap, including interim targets for 2030 and the goal of reaching net zero by 2050, and any other relevant legislative updates.

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Index



Made from Alternative Materials

- > **Alternatives to cotton and plastic derived textiles and fibres**
 - Hemp
 - Jute (hessian)
 - Linen
 - Lyocell
 - Raffia
 - Ramie
 - Sisal
- > **Alternatives to peat**
- > **Alternatives to plastics**
 - Bagasse, sugar cane waste
 - Bamboo
 - Banana fibres and leaves
 - Brushwood (heather)
 - Cellulose sponges
 - Coconut fibre, including coir
 - Cork
 - Loofah scrubbers
 - Pinecones
 - Rattan
 - Reed
 - Water hyacinth
- > **Alternatives to forest derived wood**
 - Hazel
 - Mango wood
 - Olive wood
 - Rice husks
 - Rubberwood
 - Straw, strawboard
 - Willow
- > **Alternatives to conventional fertilisers**
 - Seaweed

Made From Alternative Materials Watch List

- CEM 1 cement
- Peat
- Specified fossil fuel derived materials:
 - Bitumen
 - Coal
 - Oil based lubricants
 - Petrol and diesel and products designed to be used with petrol or diesel
 - Paraffin and kerosene and products designed to be used with paraffin and kerosene

Made from Recycled Materials

- > **Construction materials**
 - Aggregate
 - Gypsum (plaster)
- > **Fabrics**
 - Cotton
 - Textiles
- > **Glass**
 - Glass fibre (glass wool)
- > **Metals**
 - Brass
 - Copper
- > **Plastics**
 - Global Recycled Standard (GRS)
- > **Wood, paper and board**
 - Paper and board, recycled
 - Wood, recycled
 - Wood, reused
- > **Made from Recycled Materials Watch List**
 - Plastics where safety cannot be confirmed

Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials

- > **Type 1 Eco labels**
 - Der Blaue Engel (also known as Blue Angel)
 - EU Eco label
 - NF Environnement
 - Nordic Swan Eco label
 - Türkiye Çevre Etiketi
- > **Agricultural schemes**
 - Global Good Agricultural Practice (Global G.A.P.)
 - MPS-ABC
- > **Biobased materials and plastics**
- > **Circular economy schemes**
- > **Ethical sourcing schemes**
 - Fair Trade Mark (Fair Trade Foundation)
 - Good Weave
- > **Organic standards**
 - Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)
 - Organic 100 Content Standard (OCS)
 - Soil Association Approved
 - EU Organic labels
 - Agriculture Biologique
 - Oeko-TEX® Organic Cotton
- > **Standards specialising in a single material or group of materials**
 - Composite
 - Cotton
 - BCI cotton
 - Metals:
 - Copper Mark
 - Zinc Mark
 - Wood, paper, cork, rubber, bamboo and other forest related products (includes FSC® and PEFC)
 - Wool
- > **Made from Responsibly Sourced Materials Watch List**
 - Materials that can be linked to deforestation unless responsibly sourced.
 - Biobased materials unless responsibly sourced
 - Cotton unless recycled, organic or sourced through a responsible sourcing scheme

Made using Lower Impact Manufacture

- > **Schemes for manufacturers and factories**
 - Low Carbon Manufacturing programme (LCMP)
- > **Criteria for specific products, production methods and materials**
 - Dope dyeing
 - Cement and concrete
 - Ceramic tiles
 - Metals:
 - Aluminium
 - Stainless steel
 - Steel
- > **Lowering impact through design**
 - Bare cordless tools

Protecting Health at Home

- > **Acoustic insulation**
 - Underlay and floor insulation
 - Quiet Mark
 - Anti vibration mats
- > **Air pollution**
 - Carbon monoxide alarms and detectors, gas detectors
 - Formaldehyde: CARB2 and E 0.5
 - Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
 - Barbecues
 - Electric vehicle accessories
 - Extractor fans
 - Cooker hoods
 - Dehumidifiers
 - Wood powered boilers, heaters and stoves
- > **Chemical safety**
 - Alternatives to corrosive drain cleaning chemicals
 - Alternatives to insecticides: mosquito screens and nets
 - Non-toxic household and decorating chemical products

- Specified third party chemical safety schemes:
 - bluesign® standard
 - EcoCert Ecodetergents (cleaning products)
 - EMICODE® EC1+
 - Greenguard
 - Green Seal
 - natureplus®
 - OEKO-TEX® Standard 100
 - OEKO-TEX® Made in Green
 - TCO Certified
- Specified chemical products that do not contain unwanted chemicals
- Specified solid objects that do not contain unwanted chemicals
- Footwear
- > **Active and independent living**
 - Cycling
 - Independent Living: grab rails, ramps and gadgets
- > **Home safety**
 - Anti-slip
 - Child safety
 - Electrical safety
 - Flood protection
- > **Protecting Health at Home Watch List**
 - Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) air pollution:
 - Petrol powered tools and accessories
 - Particulate air pollution:
 - Solid fuel burning outdoors:
 - Incinerators
 - Fire pits, chimineas
 - Charcoal barbecues, charcoal
 - Outdoor use candles
 - Solid fuel burning indoors:
 - Peat and coal fuel
 - Wood for burning
 - Alternative solid fuels
 - Boilers, stoves and heaters designed to burn coal or peat
 - Candles
 - Gas hobs

- Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) air pollution:
 - Solvent based paints and wood treatments
 - Products meeting or exceeding the following volatile organic compound standards:
 - 25% “Medium” or worse based on UK globe VOC labelling.
 - C or worse based on French VOC labelling
- Harmful Chemicals:
 - Corrosive household and decorating chemicals
 - Glyphosate

Saving Energy at Home

- > **Alternatives to energy using products**
 - Sun pipes, sun tunnels
 - Clothes lines and airers
 - Hand push mowers
- > **Cooling homes**
 - Shading:
 - Shutters
 - Awnings
 - Thermal blinds and curtains
 - Glazing films
 - Comfort fans
 - Ceiling fans
 - Personal mini fans
 - Mains powered comfort fans
 - Air conditioning
- > **Controlling energy use**
 - Smart home systems and components
 - Heating & hot water controls
 - Cylinder thermostats, pipe thermostats
 - Room thermostats
 - Heating and hot water programmers and timers
 - Thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs)
 - Weather compensators
 - Thermometers
 - Controlling electrical devices
 - Sockets and extension leads that enable energy control
 - Motion sensors
 - Photo sensors
 - Remote controls
 - Timers

> **Heating and hot water**

- Space heaters
 - Heat pumps
 - Mechanical heat recovery (MHR)
 - Electric boilers
 - Electric heating
- Water heaters
- Space and water heating efficiency
 - Wet type underfloor heating
 - Radiator keys
 - Scale inhibitors
 - Mixer taps with cold start
- Insulating heating and hot water systems
 - Cylinder jackets
 - Insulated hot water cylinders
 - Pipe insulation
 - Radiator foil and reflective panels

> **Kitchen appliances**

- Cooker hoods, range hoods
- Dishwashers
- Washing machines
- Washer dryers
- Tumble dryers
- Ovens
- Hobs
- Fridges, fridge freezers and freezers

> **Lighting**

- LED lighting
- Solar and battery powered lighting
- LED drivers and dimmers

> **Power tools**

- Power tools with brushless motors

> **Renewable energy**

- Solar PV panels and accessories
- Solar thermal panels and accessories
- Solar powered products
- Wind turbines
- Renewable energy storage:
 - Thermal stores
 - Home batteries

Thermal efficiency

- Insulation:
 - Loft, wall and floor insulation:
 - Insulated loft hatches
 - Construction insulation

- Multi foil insulation
- Thermal liners for walls, thermal wallpapers
- Installed insulation services
- Draught proofing
 - Letter box brushes, under-door brushes, door and window seals, chimney draught excluders
 - Installed draught proofing services
 - Expanding foam draught proofing
 - Door curtains
 - Draught excluder cushions
- Tools, fittings and accessories for installing thermal insulation and/or making it more effective
 - Thermal cameras and detectors
 - Loft stilts
 - Membranes for insulation
 - Cavity closers
 - Insulation wall tie retaining clips
 - Tools designed specifically for installing insulation
 - Adhesives designed specifically for fitting insulation
- Doors and windows

Saving Energy at Home Watch List

- Inefficient energy using products:
 - Air conditioning under specified energy rating
 - Kitchen appliances under specified energy rating
 - Hobs: non-induction hobs
 - Space and water heaters under specified energy rating
 - Electric showers with energy label rating of B or lower
 - Non-LED lighting
- Gas powered heating systems, kitchen appliances and hot water heaters
- Doors and windows not meeting specified u values
- Energy intensive products, including:
 - Wired type underfloor heating
 - Electrical heaters not meeting the standards specified in Appendix 4
 - Outdoor heating and cooling (including patio heaters)
 - Saunas
 - Greenhouse heaters and heated propagators

Saving Water at Home

> Using rainwater

- Rainwater storage, water butts (rain barrels) and rainwater storage tanks
- Accessories for rainwater storage
- Watering cans
- Water butt pumps and other products designed to work with stored rainwater

> Using grey water

- Combined toilet and basin units
- Grey water siphons

> Water efficient products

- Bathtubs
- Showers
- Toilets
- Taps

> Products that enable more efficient water use

- Mulching:
 - Mulch
 - Soil conditioner
 - Manure
 - Mulching lawn mowers
- Plants that are able to thrive with low levels of water
- Garden watering
 - Trigger fittings for hoses
 - Rain or moisture sensors
 - Timers
 - Micro irrigation systems
 - Underground irrigation systems, soaker hoses
- Preventing and fixing leaks
 - Replacement toilet siphons and valves
 - Tap washers
 - Replacement tap cartridges
 - Tap reseating tools
 - Outdoor tap covers
 - Cold water tank jackets
 - Flood alarms and monitors
 - Smart water controls and emergency shut off taps
- Retrofit accessories and gadgets
 - Washing up bowls
 - Replacement basin and sink plugs
 - Dual flush conversion kits and components for toilets

- Retrofit tap aerators

> Addressing flooding

- Effective Drainage
 - Gutter leaf guards, drainage with integrated debris guards.
 - Drain guards ("baskets" for plugs), wastes supplied with drain guards
 - Sink plungers
 - Drain rods
- Addressing surface water flooding
 - Gravel and decorative aggregates
 - Grids designed for use with grass or gravel
 - Semi porous bonded gravel and jointing compounds

> Saving Water at Home Watch List

- Water intensive products:
 - Lawn sprinklers unless fitted with a timer
 - Swimming pools, paddling pools and accessories
 - Spa pools and accessories
 - Water using toys
- Inefficient water-using products:
 - Baths with capacity over 200 litres
 - Showers and shower heads with high flow rates
 - Basin and kitchen taps with high flow rates
 - Toilets with average flush volume greater than 4.5 litres

Supporting Biodiversity at Home

- > **Alternatives to conventional garden chemicals**
 - Biological controls
 - Chemical products approved for use in organic gardening or farming
 - Manure: Farmyard manure, chicken manure pellets
 - Green manure seeds.
 - Landscape fabrics for weed control
 - Ferric phosphate slug pellets
- > **Reducing litter and other pollution entering the environment**
 - Litter picking tools and equipment
 - Filters for washing machines
 - Water filters
- > **Plants**
- > **Supporting wildlife**
 - Fences fitted with hedgehog gaps
 - Gabion baskets
 - Pond liners
 - Wild animal care, including wild bird feeders, food and bird baths
 - Wild animal habitats including nest boxes, swift bricks and insect lodges
- > **Supporting Biodiversity at Home Watch List**
 - Chemicals that can harm wildlife whether sold as a chemical or present in another product
 - Problem plants, seeds and bulbs
 - Products that can cause environmental problems in-use or post-use:
 - Glitter
 - Turf with plastic mesh embedded
 - Artificial turf, artificial hedging and artificial plants
 - Plastic microbeads
 - Disposable wipes
 - Single use PPE (including face masks)
 - Disposable barbecues
 - Single use carrier bags
 - Products linked to animal cruelty
 - Sticky pads and glue boards used for rodent control
 - Products that contain feathers or down unless responsibly sourced

Extending Product Lifecycles

- > **Composting**
 - Compost bins, composters.
 - Bokashi bins
 - Wormeries
 - Compost collection caddies and compostable caddy liners
- > **Enabling reuse**
 - Reusable alternatives to specified single-use products:
 - Rechargeable batteries and chargers
 - Storage specifically designed for reusable plastic carrier bags
 - Dust sheets designed for multiple use
 - Reusable grow-bags
 - Heavy duty garden clear away sacks and tear resistant rubble bags
 - Paying to use - alternatives to product ownership
 - Hire and rental:
 - Tool hire
 - Product rental
 - Van rental
 - In-store cutting services
- > **Refurbished products**
- > **Product longevity**
 - Warranties
 - Plumbing fittings
 - Paint durability
- > **Recycling**
 - Split waste bins and modular multi-bin systems.
 - Recycling storage bags.
 - Recycling services, including skip hire and household collection
- > **Repairability**
 - L'Indice de Réparabilité (Repairability Index)
 - Repair services
 - Repair kits and products
 - Maintenance products
 - Spare parts

> **Extending Product Lifecycles Watch List**

- Specified products sold with a warranty less than 5 years.
 - Shower trays
- Products with a L'Indice de Réparabilité (Repairability Index) of 6 or lower
- Single-use, disposable products:
 - Single-use batteries.
 - Products supplied with single-use batteries.
 - Products that are effectively designed for single use:
 - Disposable chemical dehumidifiers
 - Roller tray liners

Mixed Materials Criteria

Appendices:

- > **Appendix 1: Glossary of terms**
- > **Appendix 2: Third party certifications and standards**
- > **Appendix 3: Unwanted chemicals list**
- > **Appendix 4: Electrical heating**
- > **Appendix 5: Plant lists**
- > **Appendix 6: Point-of-View criteria**
- > **Appendix 7: Concrete**