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# A Better Environment by Design

Floor coverings with  
BRE Environmental  
Assessment Method  
A+ and A ratings

**burmatex**<sup>®</sup>



Printed on 100% post consumer waste recycled paper

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## A Better Environment by Design

When we looked around to see who would provide the most rigorous, cradle-to-grave environmental assessment of our products and how we make them, we chose BRE. Their Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) is the most widely used and respected — in the UK and around the world.\*

They came to us, studied our manufacturing activities, analysed our products, and ran their rule over our whole supply chain process. The result was a vindication of the way we've always done things. Not just straight A's across all our products in all applications, but mainly A+'s for their use in education and healthcare sectors. Their assessment was that Burmatex carpet tiles and sheet rank among the very best of floor finish options in terms of overall environmental impacts. These include climate change, ecotoxicity, waste disposal and fossil fuel depletion.

In 1917, when J.F. Burrows first opened the gates at the site which is now Burmatex, we started out recycling reclaimed rags. Being good Yorkshire people we hate waste. We like a little to go a long way and being careful has always come naturally to us. Today our carpet tiles and sheet still include recycled fibre and by-products of other industrial processes. We also use as many local suppliers as possible — for yarns, backings and other materials to supply contracts, large and small, throughout the UK and beyond.

We're very much part of our local community — 80% of our staff live within 5 miles of our factory. Their children go to the school next door — right beside our 50,000m<sup>2</sup> manufacturing site. These simple facts tell you a great deal about our environmental outlook. We go about our business with an overriding concern for safety and intruding as little as possible on the daily lives of our

neighbours. We pride ourselves on our tree-planting and landscaping policies at our site. Local horses and ponies even get the benefit of our waste fibres and backing, pelletised and used as a free-draining surface in their training yards.

And there's an extra dimension to the impact of our products on the world around us: the quality of environment they help create for buildings where people gather to work, learn, relax or play. We offer specifiers the design capability to create interiors that sustain the functional and aesthetic objectives of their buildings — offices, schools and colleges, hospitals, retail outlets, airports, leisure centres — with the confidence that their choice is environmentally sound.

Users can draw on our inventive range of colours, patterns and textures to design floors that enhance, energise and add value, with the reassurance that our carpet tiles and sheet have been proved to satisfy the highest standards of environmental performance in their class.

\*More information about how these BREEAM ratings are reached is available on the BRE website: [www.bre.co.uk](http://www.bre.co.uk)

## Our environmental performance key indicators:

1 BREEAM A+ and A ratings across full product range and building applications.

2 10 year wear guarantee for all our products.

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3 For our backing material, we use modified bitumen, which we apply at a lower temperature to save energy.

4 At least 70% of the backing material is from recycled products.

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5 All our products are manufactured from raw materials to finished product on one site in Yorkshire.

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6 63% of all yarn used is sourced within 20 miles.

7 Research programme with Huddersfield University to develop a low energy fully recyclable carpet tile backing.

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8 Rapid-closing automatic doors throughout our factory prevent unnecessary heat loss.

9 We use green electricity.

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10 Flexible single site production facility to minimise waste and transport.

11 We actively manage our fleet fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

12 All our product packaging comes from recycled sources.

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