



Engineers & Green Star for New Buildings Fact sheet

Engineers have supported Green Star since its inception. With the upcoming evolution to the rating tool, they remain central to its success to deliver healthy, resilient, and positive places for people and nature.

Announced in March 2019, Green Star for New Buildings reimagines the existing rating tool for new buildings and major refurbishments. It aims to deliver a better, more accessible and relevant experience that meets today's challenges.

It's been eight months since we released our initial [consultation paper](#). We received more than 100 written submissions from you about our proposals in that paper. Our [feedback report](#) released in November confirmed that we are on the right track. Now it's time to reveal the detail underpinning our upcoming rating tool.

From requiring renewables to addressing emissions from product selection, the new rating tool is a powerful pathway to enable net zero precincts and cities. The improved language, changes to product selection, refined health criteria, and the minimum expectations, means that you can have meaningful conversations with your clients to help them get what they want and need.

We are seeking your views on the proposed credits and on the changes to the certification process. The feedback process closes at the end of February and the draft credits can be found on our [website](#).

We have also released a [summary paper](#) that we encourage you to read first.

The changes to Green Star are significant. This fact sheet shows you the credits we believe are of interest to you. It may not be a comprehensive list and there may be others that you are keen to see as well. However, we strongly believe these are critical to you and your profession.

We encourage you to provide us with feedback on our new rating tool. This is your chance to shape the future of Australia's built environment.

"The support of the engineering community is one of the keys to the success of Green Star. Thanks to you, Green Star rated buildings are recognised among as some of the most sustainable buildings in the world. Green Star for New Buildings ups the ante on what a sustainable building is, and we are confident you'll rise to the occasion and deliver the next generation of our sustainable buildings."

Jeff Oatman
Senior Manager - Membership



What you should do:

- 1 Read the summary paper
- 2 Explore the credits highlighted below
- 3 Provide us with your feedback

Want more? Look at the other credits or join our [webinars](#).

Why are we changing Green Star?

Global megatrends are shaping the built environment like never before.

Climate action, resource efficiency and health & wellbeing are at the top of issues to address. Issues related to these, such as resilience, biodiversity and nature losses, and a stronger focus on social impacts are rising in importance.

Green Star for New Buildings rises to the challenge.

The seven megatrends underpinning Green Star for New Buildings:

- 1 **Carbon emissions** and energy use
- 2 **Resilience** against climate change and other shocks and stresses
- 3 **Water consumption** during operations and construction
- 4 **Nature** and our part in restoring the planet's biodiversity.
- 5 **Circular economy** and the trend to close the loop on the supply chain.
- 6 **Health and wellbeing** for all occupants
- 7 **People**, human rights, and the inclusion of all in green buildings



Fact sheet: Engineers

Green Star for New Buildings is a significant evolution to Green Star. We encourage you to review the following credits first, as they are likely to impact you or benefit you directly.



Responsible

- Industry development
- Responsible construction
- Operational waste
- Verification and handover
- Responsible procurement
- Responsible structure
- Responsible envelope
- Responsible systems
- Responsible finishes



Healthy

- Clean air
- Light quality
- Exposure to toxins
- Acoustic quality
- Amenity and comfort
- Human connection to nature



Resilient

- Climate change resilience
- Systems resilience
- Community resilience
- Grid optimisation



Positive

- Energy use
- Energy source
- Upfront carbon emissions
- Other carbon emissions
- Tenant emissions
- Impacts from resources
- Water use



Places

- People movement
- Activated places
- Goods movement
- Enjoyable places
- Access to amenity
- Contribution to place



People

- Community engagement
- Culture, Identify and heritage
- Design for diversity
- Design quality
- Privacy
- Social construction impacts
- Social procurement



Nature

- Impacts to Nature
- Biodiversity Enhancement
- Nature Connectivity
- Nature Stewardship
- Offsite Restoration
- Waterways protection



Leadership

- Innovation Challenges
- Leadership in Sustainability

There are more things to come

- **Provide your feedback** to the [digitisation and certification paper changes](#) and the [draft credits](#).
- **Attend one or all of our webinars** and be prepared for the new rating tool
- **Join our Early Access Program.** There is still an opportunity to help influence the development of the rating system and be one of the first to use the new rating tool. Contact FutureFocus@gbca.org.au to arrange.
- **Request a briefing for your staff.** GBCA member organisations can request for a member of the Market Transformation team to brief your team. Contact FutureFocus@gbca.org.au to arrange.
- **Make sure you're signed up** to receive our *Green Building Voice* newsletter and *Inside Green Star* newsletter for regular announcements on project consultation periods, progress updates and additional opportunities to get involved.
- **Follow our progress via our website.** We're keen to share our work with you so we'll be providing regular updates, feedback reports, surveys and more on the [GBCA website](#).
- **Partner with us.** We aim to redefine world leadership and best practice for the next decade. Partnership opportunities are available. If you are interested please let us know at: Lucy.Harris@gbca.org.au

Thanks to our Future Focus partners for their ongoing support

Silver partners



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