Surface Materials Sustainability Stories

Working for the places we all share.



Steelcase

Better is possible™.

Doing our best work for the places we all share starts with designing better futures for people and ***the planet****.*

We're doing better for the planet by recognizing our role in climate change and reducing our environmental impact to help build a more sustainable and resilient world.

To do this we:



Reduce Our Carbon Footprint

We reduce our carbon footprint by working towards and meeting more ambitious climate goals at a greater global scale than anyone in our industry.



Design for Circularity

We design for circularity by implementing impactful reuse, recycling and remanufacturing strategies across our entire product design and delivery process.



Choose + Use Materials Responsibly

We choose and use materials responsibly by sourcing and selecting materials that are healthier for people and the planet, and managing resources such as water and energy wisely.

Reduce Our Carbon Footprint

We reduce our carbon footprint by working towards and meeting more ambitious climate goals at a greater global scale than anyone in our industry.



Wrap Knit
Created to meet the exact measurements of our Flex Personal Spaces Privacy Wraps, there are zero off-cuts and waste.



Ultramid® Ccycled™ Plastic by BASF
Diversion of an electronic waste stream bound for incineration, that is chemically recycled is used for the Flex Perch Stool.



Paint with Purpose
Two of our most used finishes for internal parts and components use reclaimed paint.

Design for Circularity

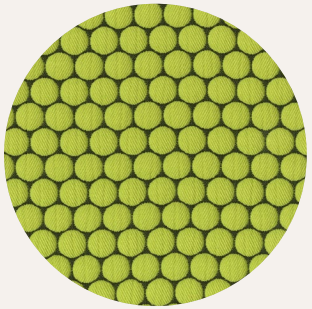
We design for circularity by implementing impactful reuse, recycling and remanufacturing strategies across our entire product design and delivery process.



New Black, Redeem, and Retrieve
These textiles are made of recycled scrap fabric.



Intersection
Each yard of Intersection removes up to a half pound of ocean-recovered plastic waste.



Loop to Loop
Designtex's Loop to Loop yarn was created by upcycling the company's own textile waste, which resulted in a new yarn for ongoing textile developments.



Renewed Loop & Beyond Loop
Gabriel's Renewed and Beyond Loop are created from a blend of textile waste from Steelcase EMEA manufacturing, which is shredded and melted into pellets.

Choose + Use Materials Responsibly

We choose and use materials responsibly by sourcing and selecting materials that are healthier for people and the planet, and managing resources such as water and energy wisely.



Elmosoft
A clean water tanning technology allows borrowing of water instead of consuming water and returning the water back to the river in the same condition.



Bo Peep
Contains 100% natural fiber wool, which is a renewable resource. Steelcase has 57 standard and select fabrics that primarily contain wool.



Reclaimed Laminates
Post-production paper chips are re-used to create a new paper sheet that is 30% reclaimed material.

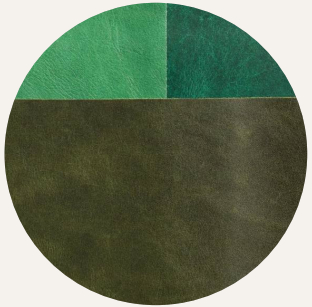


Composite Veneers
Only fast-growing tree species are used, with more than double the yield of traditional veneer.

Choose + Use Materials Responsibly



Stand In and Brisa
Stand In, a vinyl alternative, and Brisa, a leather alternative, are common polyurethane (PU) that offer a high-performance alternative to vinyl (PVC).



Terra
Using the wet-green® process by Moore & Giles, this leather is tanned by brewing fallen leaves from olive trees and finished with natural oils instead of with traditional chemicals.



Crypton® by Designtex
Delivered with healthier chemistry to combat the toughest stains, it does not include PFAS, antimicrobials and formaldehyde.



Clarity™ UV
The use of water-based UV-cured clear coats dramatically reduces the indoor air emissions of our products.

Paint With Purpose

“What started out as a project to launch new paint colors with recycled content evolved to be a project aimed at reducing the amount of waste we generate.”
Andrew Roman, Global Surface Materials

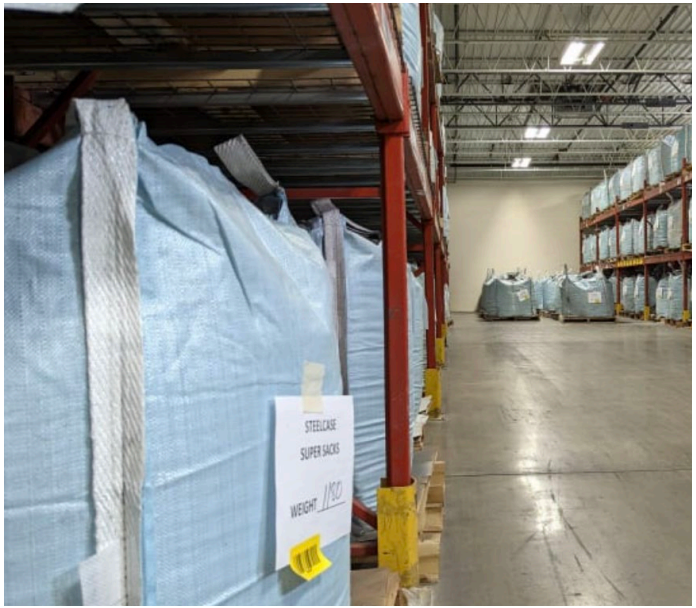
Working with our one of our paint suppliers, Steelcase is reclaiming powder coat paint and eliminating 97,000 pounds of paint waste annually – a total landfill reduction of 91%.

By adding 2% black powder coat to our powder coat waste, we are able to reuse the new paint formulation on Steelcase Answer junctions, without causing any visual change.

2025 Update:

Through additional work with our partners, we have expanded the powder coat formulation to include 4 specifiable textured paint finishes:

- 7243 Seagull
- 7360 Merle
- 7239 Midnight
- 7237 Slate



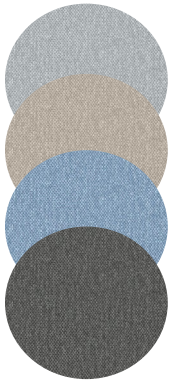




Wrap Knit

Steelcase

Using knit to fit, zero waste technology, the Privacy Wrap textile is perfectly engineered to fit the unique curves and contours of the screens, eliminating material waste and increasing recyclability.



5KJ1 Merle
5KJ2 Cloud
5KJ3 Fog
5KJ4 Sand



Ultramid® Ccyled™ Plastic by BASF

Steelcase Surfaces

Through a partnership with BASF, Steelcase Flex Perch is the first furniture product to use a sustainable innovation called Chem-Cycling or Ccyling™ that transforms recycled content from electronics production waste into a like-new raw material needed, which is also 100% recyclable.

100% recyclable	First furniture product to use Ccyling™	Diverts a waste stream from electronics production

Stand In

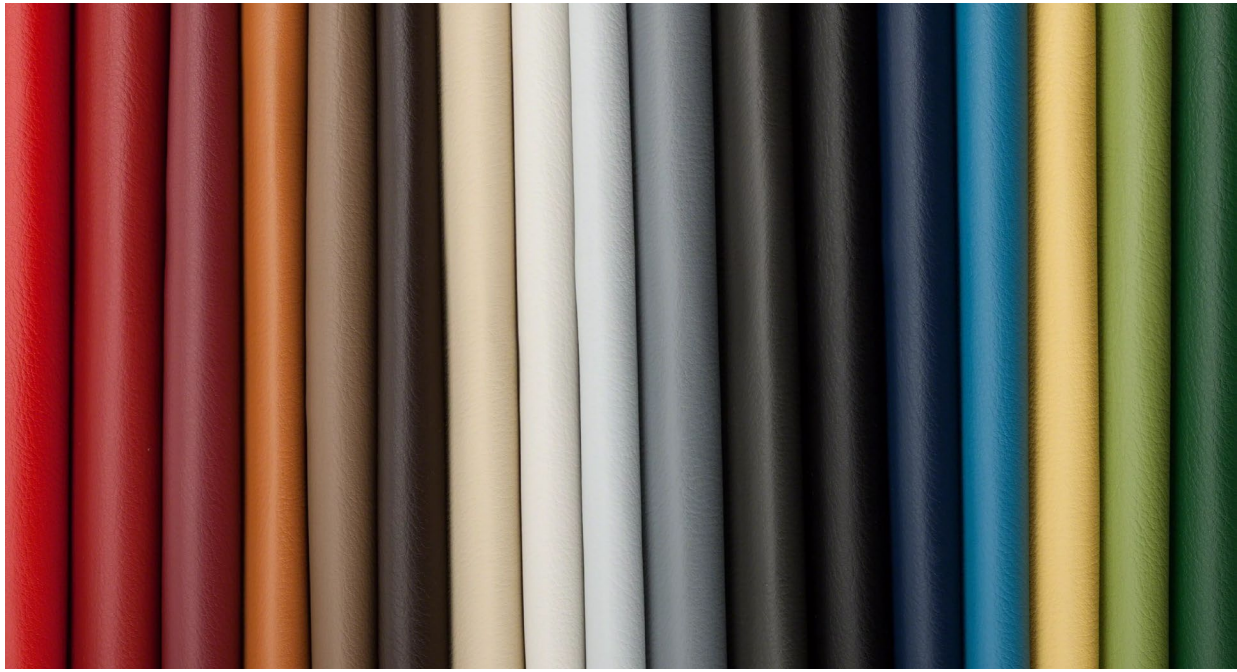
Steelcase Surfaces | Price Group 2

Stand In is a polyurethane (PU) with a leather-like grain design.

The material does not contain solvents including PVC, PFAS, Heavy Metals or Flame Retardants.

Its coated design makes this an ideal material for highly cleanable performance applications such as health or learning environments. It can be specified across our seating portfolio.

Initially launched in 2012 with an updated relaunch in 2019, its color portfolio offers expansive choice to suit any space.



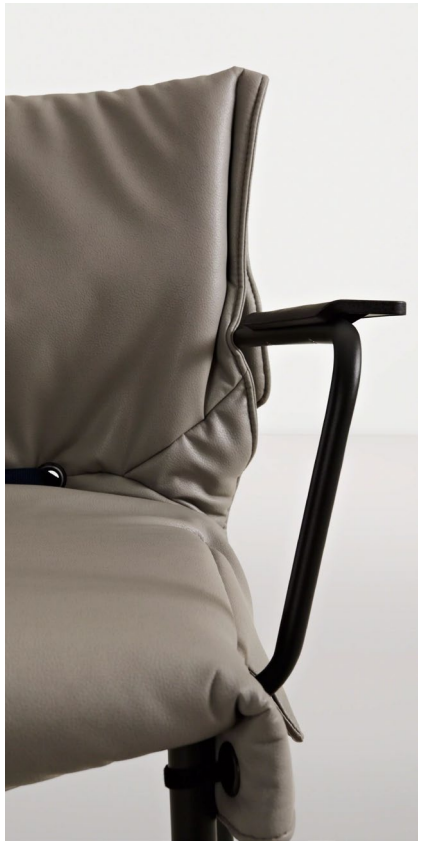
5621 Sleet
5622 Lunar
5623 Cyclone
5624 Eclipse
5625 Powder
5626 Chardonnay
5627 Graham
5628 Sediment
5629 Allspice

5630 Apple
5631 Lava
5632 Cayenne
5633 Plantain
5634Parsley
5635 Scallion
5636 Atlantis
5691 Orca
5740 Burlap

5741 Porter
5742 Tusk
5743 Putty
5744 Blueberry
5745 Chartreuse
5746 Mango
5747 Sedona
5748 Juniper
5749 Peanut

December 2019





Brisa

Steelcase Surfaces | Price Group 6

Brisa distinguishes itself from other coated materials because of its breathable design. Brisa has a leather-like grain and a soft hand which provides a high level of comfort. With Brisa's rich aesthetic, its suited for conference rooms, task and lounge seating and offered in a range of color options.

BR01	Black Onyx	BR21	Moccasin
BR04	Truffle	BR22	Buckskin
BR06	Ash	BR24	Mineral
BR07	Sage	BR25	Skyway
BR08	Celery	BR26	Iron
BR09	Sterling Blue	BR27	Stormy
BR10	Night Navy	BR28	Esmeralda
BR11	Cambridge Blue	BR29	Seaweed
BR12	Abyss	BR30	Bone
BR14	Pompeian Red	BR31	Carmel
BR16	Cinnabar	BR32	Bridle
BR18	New Sand	BR33	Moon
BR20	White		



Terra

Select Surfaces | Price Group 2

Terra specifically has an added sustainability story. This leather is tanned with olive leaves, fallen from olive trees in the Mediterranean region. The leaves, which are crushed into a tea-like paste, are byproduct of the olive industry, just as the hides are a byproduct of the meat and dairy industry.

1000TTW Cavern
1020TTW Black Olive
4789TTW Deep Sea
4791TTW Aegean
5700TER Palm
5700TTW Lemon Grass
6600 Ruby
7010-TH Thicket

New Black

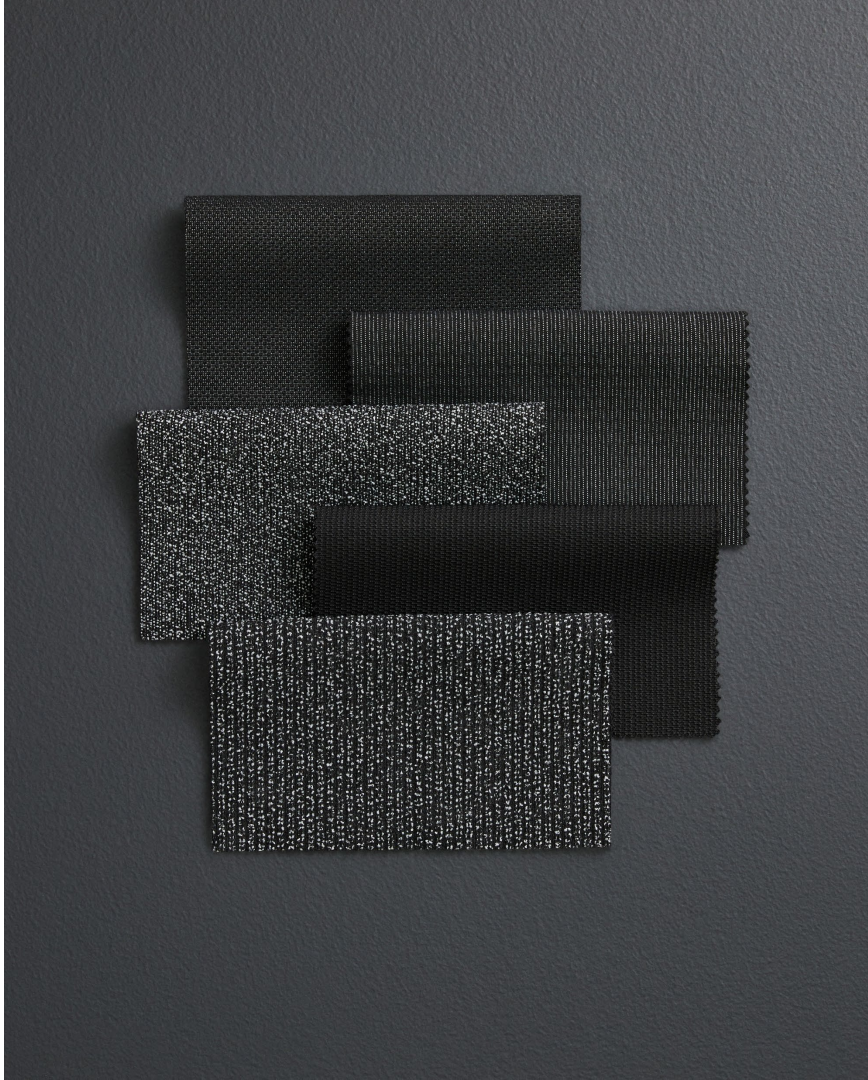
Steelcase Surfaces

Panel fabric scraps from the Steelcase production process are re-spun into black thread, which is then paired with a white recycled polyester thread. The result is New Black, which is 100% recyclable.

Upcycled scrap fabric

100% recyclable

5J08 Jack
5J09 James
5J10 Bruce
5J12 Harley
5J11 Henry



Redeem + Retrieve

In partnership with Designtex, Duvaltex, and Unifi, a closed loop platform was created to utilize more of the fabric scrap waste stream.

Scrap fiber is recycled and sent to Unifi where it is processed and extruded into a solution-dyed black recycled yarn.

The recycled black yarn is then woven into new textiles that are used on Steelcase seating products.
Here is the whole **collection** of Designtex products using this construction.

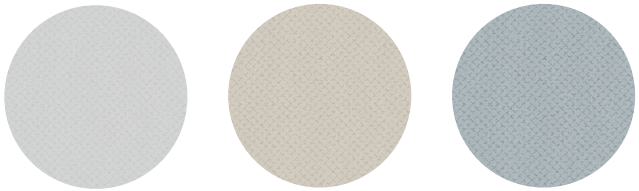


Intersection

Steelcase Surfaces | Price Group 2

Intersection is a textile option for panel surfaces that is made through a partnership with Duvaltex & Seaqual. This innovative material comes from marine waste that is collected by local European fisherman then turned into a durable fabric.

P211 Summit
P212 Chalk
P213 Lace





January 2010

Elmosoft

Steelcase Surfaces | Price Group Elmosoft Leather

Elmosoft is a soft, pliable Semi-Aniline leather that provides an extensive color selection, from soft neutrals to muted tones. This material combines outstanding comfort with excellent durability across our seating products. A clean water tanning technology allows borrowing of water instead of consuming water and returning the water back to the river in the same condition.

L110 Maritime Blue
L111 Midnight Blue
L112 Ebony
L113 Gunmetal
L114 Mica
L115 Dove Grey
L116 Plum Pleasure
L122 Truffle
L128 Red Birch
L133 Espresso
L134 Ruby
L135 Scarlet
L138Bourbon
L139Cinder
L140 Garnet
L143 Pecan
L144 Chamois
L146 Russet
L147 Saddle
L151 White
L709 Sugar
L711 Parchment
L717 Cameo
L723 Storm
L730 Hunter
L743 Forest Green
L747Cigar
L749Beaver
L750 Bluffstone
L752 Oxblood
L755 Peanut Butter
L758 Mustard
L762 Canvas
L763 Macadamia
L768 Tropical
L769 Mauve
L770 Cadet
L772 Timberwolf
L773 Chalice
L774 Oil
L775Coyote



November 2010

Bo Peep

Steelcase Surfaces | Price Group 5

100% Wool. 100% Sustainable. 100% Feel Good.

Bo Peep, the Oeko-Tex* certified seating pattern, provides a timeless aesthetic that translates to 21 elegant color options. In addition, the supplier only purchases wool from sheep that have not been subject to the practice of mule sing. Bo Peep contains 100% natural fiber wool, which is a renewable resource.

5G67	Bone	5G80	Serpent
5G72	Honey Mustard	5G81	Carolina
5G73	Marmalade	5G82	Blue Bonnet
5G74	Picnic	5G83	Nautical
5G75	Pinot	5G84	Gravel
5G76	Bloom	5G85	Sharkskin
5G77	Grapevine	5G86	Kohl
5G79	Artichoke		







Reclaimed Laminates

Steelcase Surfaces | Price Group 2

Fragments of solid color paper that would have otherwise gone to waste are chopped up and added to liquid paper pulp to create the Reclaimed Aggregate and Reclaimed Gravel finishes. This technique uses small-batch craft production so that each new sheet produced is unique and natural.



Containing 30% recycled material

Waste diversion of solid color paper

2UH1 Reclaimed Aggregate
2UH2 Reclaimed Gravel





Beyond Loop and Renewed Loop

Steelcase Select Surface

Gabriel's Renewed and Beyond Loop are created from a blend of textile waste from Steelcase manufacturing, which is shredded and melted into pellets.

These are then mixed with post-consumer recycled polyester from used plastic bottles. The result is fabrics that can continuously recycled within an infinite closed loop.

Steelcase textile waste diversion

100% recyclable





Café Leather

Steelcase Surfaces | Price Leather 1

Steelcase Standard Leather is a by-product of the food industry, diverting hides from entering landfill. It is finished without use of solvents or lead. It is produced in a facility which is powered by 100% green electric supply and green natural gas.

Diverts hides from the landfill

Finished without solvents or lead, emitting low VOCs

Gold level tannery by the Leather Working Group environmental stewardship and traceability standards

100% Total Recycled Content Finishes

Steelcase Surfaces

Find all finishes that have 100% total recycled content on the Steelcase Finish Library. SoftNext is a newly launched example that is made from 100% post-consumer recycled polyester. This textile can be used across a range of products including both seating and vertical applications.

100% total recycled content

