

# BRE Global Ratings

Polyflor's vast range of products, technical support and best value flooring, means you can maximise your BREEAM score without any compromise on performance, choice or budget.



Polyflor's homogeneous and safety ranges have been individually assessed by BRE Global to measure their environmental impact. The new rating scheme is based on A+ to E rankings, with A+ being the most desirable rating, having achieved the best ecopoints. A better rating helps to maximise a building's BREEAM score, which is achievable through our A+ ratings.

SAFETY	Health	Education	Retail	Industrial Shed	Office	Domestic
Polysafe Astral	A+	A+	A+	A	A	B
Polysafe Corona	A+	A+	A+	A	A	B
Polysafe Vogue Ultra	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Polysafe Strata	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Polysafe Standard	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Polysafe Hydro	A+	A+	A+	A	A	B
Polysafe Ultima	A+	A+	A+	A	B	B

HOMOGENEOUS	Health	Education	Retail	Industrial Shed	Office	Domestic
2000 PUR	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Classic Mystique PUR	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Mystique PUR	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Prestige PUR	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
XL PU	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Standard XL	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A

**The PUR product group in particular offers a further significant environmental benefit. The Polyurethane reinforcement facilitates a polish-free maintenance regime for its lifetime, greatly reducing chemical usage and reducing water usage by 55% compared to traditional maintenance regimes.**

The new BRE Global rating scheme is categorised by end use areas, as the environmental impact in each can vary. The reason for this is that various products will be available in the different sectors, which are subject to a pre-determined spread of ratings across the categories A+ to E. Therefore, more options may be available within the domestic sector, for example, but many will have negligible differences between ecopoints of products rated A or B. Overall, Polyflor's certified ratings are impressive, particularly in the key areas of health and education, where BREEAM ratings are linked to government funding. For more information on our certification ENP336, visit [www.greenbooklive.com](http://www.greenbooklive.com) and enter 'Polyflor' into the search box.

Where Polyflor products have not been individually certified by BRE Global, generic ratings are also available. These generic ratings apply to specific categories of flooring installed into defined use areas. For example, homogeneous flooring, to EN649 standard, rated 34/43 for use area and installed in a healthcare environment. Vinyl flooring achieves on average a generic BRE Global A+ rating for most vinyl varieties across the categories shown below.

Sector	Homogeneous	Heterogeneous	LVT	Safety	Linoleum	Rubber
Standard	EN 649	EN 649	EN 649	EN 13845	EN 548	EN 12199 & EN 1817
Health	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+
Education	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+
Commercial	A	A	A	A	A	A
Retail	A+/A+	A+/A+	A+/A	A+/A	A+/A+	A+/A+
Domestic	A	A	A	B	A	A

For more detail about how these ratings are arrived at by BRE Global visit [www.thegreenguide.org.uk](http://www.thegreenguide.org.uk).



## Independent assessment of the whole life environmental impact based over a 60 year life.

There are a number of international schemes used for assessing the environmental impact of a product over its whole life. Polyflor have had ranges assessed under a number of such schemes, but the BRE (Building Research Establishment) Global environmental assessment is used as the main tool to convey the environmental profile of individual ranges of flooring.

It is widely recognised that the BRE Global environmental assessment methods are exceptionally thorough and well respected, both in the UK and increasingly internationally.

BRE Global Limited, a subsidiary of the BRE Trust, is a world leading independent third party approvals body.

Their environmental rating system provides guidance for architects, specifiers and clients on the environmental impact of building materials.

BRE ratings are based on a Life Cycle Assessment approach, over a building life of 60 years. The BRE Green Guide is thorough and logical, leading to the increasing influence of this scheme around the world from its UK base.

Products are rated for their environmental impact, receiving a rating from A+ to E, with A+ being the highest achievable environmental rating. The scheme in 2009 has been updated from the previous ratings of A to C.

The cradle to grave approach in creating the environmental profiles gives a simple to understand rating to an extraordinarily complex set of data. This ensures that reliable and comparable environmental information is available between competing products, thus eliminating the confusion of claims and counterclaims about the performance of building materials.

Within the rating, materials are assessed according to their impact on Climate Change, Water Extraction, Mineral Resource Extraction, Stratospheric Ozone Depletion, Human Toxicity, Ecotoxicity to Freshwater, Nuclear Waste, Ecotoxicity to Land, Waste Disposal, Fossil Fuel Depletion, Eutrophication, Photochemical Ozone Creation and Acidification.

Using A+ rated flooring products will have a beneficial impact on a BREEAM score (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method).

BREEAM is the world's leading environmental assessment method for buildings. It sets a standard for best practice in sustainable design and has become the de-facto measure of a building's environmental performance. BREEAM can be tailored to assess any building type in any location in the world.

