






Understanding Green Building Standards

This is a summary overview of approaches to green building for single family and multifamily homes.

The following standards are voluntary and exceed the basic level of green building required by 2016 CALGreen but may be adopted as code by local jurisdictions.

	GreenPoint Rated, DRAFT Version 7	CALGreen 2016 Tier 1	CALGreen 2016 Tier 2	LEED for Homes v4
Project Type	New Construction, Existing Construction, Retrofits & Additions*	New Construction & Additions	New Construction & Additions	New Construction & Gut Rehabs
Verification	Third Party Rater	Building Department	Building Department	Third Party Provider and Green Rater
Verification Timing	Plan Check, Construction Verification & Performance Testing	Plan Check, Inspection Reports, or Other Methods Acceptable by Enforcing Authority	Plan Check, Inspection Reports, or Other Methods Acceptable by Enforcing Authority	Preliminary Rating during Conceptual Design, Construction Verification & Performance Testing
Points Possible	Capped at 300	None	None	Up to 110
Levels	Platinum (140+) Gold (110 - 139 points) Silver (80 - 109 points) Certified (50 - 79 points)	Tier 1	Tier 2	Platinum (80+) Gold (60 - 79 points) Silver (50 - 59 points) Certified (40 - 49 points)
Certification	GreenPoint Rated 	None	None	LEED Certified 
Net Zero Designation	Yes 	None	None	None
Program Mininums & Prerequisites <i>(see reverse for details)</i>	Point minimums in each of 5 categories, minimum total points, 5 prerequisites for Single Family, 6 prerequisites for Multifamily	Minimum measures in 5 categories, 12 prerequisites	Minimum measures in 5 categories, 12 prerequisites	Point minimums in each category, minimum total points, 16 prerequisites

* Existing home retrofits & additions subject to the prerequisites and requirements of GreenPoint Rated Existing Homes program.

This document is based on a comparison originally prepared by StopWaste and approved by San Francisco Department of the Environment, Build It Green, the US Green Building Council, and USGBC California in 2014. Although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, be advised that information may change, and that some comparisons are based on professional judgment by Build It Green.

References

- GreenPoint Rated, Version 7.0, www.builditgreen.org/greenpoint-rated
- CALGreen 2016: California Green Building Standards Code California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 11 (California Department of Housing and Community Development), www.hcd.ca.gov
- LEED for Homes v4: www.usgbc.org/credits/homes/v4

Prerequisite Details

	GreenPoint Rated, DRAFT Version 7	CALGreen 2013 Tier 1	CALGreen 2013 Tier 2	LEED for Homes v4
Site Prerequisites	None	<p>Topsoil shall be protected or saved for reuse</p> <p>No less than 20% of parking and walking surfaces shall be permeable</p> <p>Roofing is cool roof and meets Table A4.106.5.1(1) or (3)</p> <p>Install circuit for EV charging</p> <p>Turf limited to 50%</p>	<p>Limit construction activity to the construction area</p> <p>No less than 30% of parking and walking surfaces shall be permeable</p> <p>Roofing is cool roof and meets Table A4.106.5.1(2) or (4)</p> <p>Install circuit for EV charging</p> <p>Turf limited to 25%</p>	<p>Floodplain avoidance</p> <p>Construction activity pollution prevention</p> <p>No invasive plants</p>
Water Prerequisites	None	<p>Develop water budget conforming to local or California Landscape Ordinance. Budget meets 0.55 ETAF</p>	<p>Develop water budget conforming to local or California Landscape Ordinance. Budget meets 0.55 ETAF</p>	<p>Water metering</p>
Energy Prerequisites	<p>Building performance exceeds 2016 Title 24, Part 6, by 10% OR lower compliance for all-electric buildings OR 20% reduction of whole building energy use</p>	<p>The energy budget is < 85% of 2016 Title 24, Part 6, Energy Budget for the proposed design building*</p>	<p>The energy budget is < 70% of 2016 Title 24, Part 6, Energy Budget for the proposed design building*</p>	<p>Minimum energy performance: Energy Star for Homes + Energy Star appliances + fully ducted</p> <p>Energy metering</p> <p>Home size adjuster</p>
Material Prerequisites	<p>Waste diversion – 65%</p> <p>Durable roofing (multifamily)</p>	<p>Waste diversion – 65% from facility with 3rd party verified rate</p> <p>Replace at least 20% of Portland cement content in concrete mix</p> <p>≥ 10% of total material cost to be recycled content</p>	<p>Waste diversion – 75%</p> <p>Replace at least 25% of Portland cement content in concrete mix</p> <p>≥ 15% of total material cost to be recycled content</p>	<p>Certified tropical wood</p> <p>Durability management (water management & moisture control)</p>
Health Prerequisites	<p>Meet ASHRAE 62.2-2016 ventilation standards</p>	<p>Thermal insulation meets VOC-emission limits</p> <p>≥ 90% of resilient flooring meets VOC requirements</p>	<p>Thermal insulation meets VOC-emission limits and contains no added formaldehyde</p> <p>100% of resilient flooring meets VOC requirements</p>	<p>Meet ASHRAE 62.2-2016 ventilation standards</p> <p>Combustion venting (including CO sensors, enclosed fireplaces)</p> <p>Garage pollution prevention</p> <p>Radon resistant construction</p> <p>Air filtering (MERV 8 or 6)</p> <p>Environmental tobacco smoke control</p> <p>Compartmentalization between units</p>
Other Prerequisites	<p>Green appraisal addendum</p> <p>GreenPoint Rated checklist in blueprints</p> <p>CALGreen mandatory measures</p>	<p>CALGreen mandatory measures</p>	<p>CALGreen mandatory measures</p>	<p>Preliminary rating</p> <p>Education of homeowner, tenant or building owner</p>

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