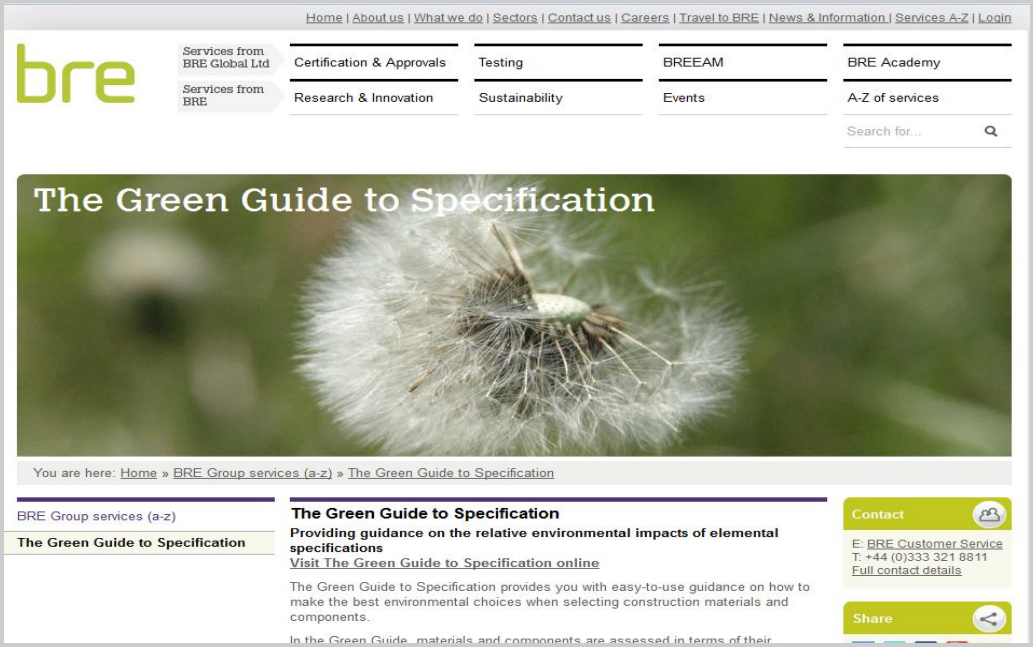
Name of the Tool	The Green Guide to Specification
Home Page	
Logo	bre
URL	https://www.bre.co.uk/page.jsp?id=499
Subject	Buildings – Specifications; Sustainable buildings – Specifications; Sustainable architecture—Specifications.
Accessibility	On subscription base
Language	English
Publisher	BRE Global Ltd.
Brief History	The Green Guide to Specification provides guidance on the relative environmental impacts of elemental specifications. In 1917, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) proposed the creation of an organization to investigate various building materials and methods of construction suitable to use in new housing following the First World War. In June 1920, the Building Research Board met for the first time,

	and in 1921 a central, Government-funded laboratory – the Building Research Station (BRS) – was formed to carry out research work for the Board. Some of the earliest work of BRS studied the behavior of reinforced concrete in floors, and the development of the British Standard for bricks – the UK's first standard for construction materials. Originally based at Acton, west London, BRS moved to Bucknalls, a large Victorian house surrounded by 38 acres of land near Watford in 1925. Building Research Establishment (BRE) occupies that same site today, although the area has been extended over the years, with Bucknalls itself still at the centre. During the Second World War, staff of BRS were engaged in a number of novel areas of work, including creating a 1/50th scale model of the Mohne Dam that was used by Barnes Wallis in some of his early researches leading to the development of the bouncing bomb. In 1972, Forest Products Research Laboratory (FPRL) was merged into the Building Research Station, and in turn that was renamed the Building Research Establishment (BRE). The Princes Risborough staff and facilities moved to BRE's Watford site in 1988.
Scope & Coverage	The first edition of The Green Guide series in 1996 aimed to provide a simple 'green guide' to the environmental impacts of building materials which was easy-to-use and soundly based on numerical data. The Green Guide is part of BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) an accredited environmental rating scheme for buildings. The Green Guide contains more than 1500 specifications used in various types of building. IT examines the relative environmental impacts of the construction materials commonly used in six different generic types building including: commercial buildings, such as offices, educational, healthcare, retail, domestic, and industrial.
Kind of Information	The Green Guide to Specification provides specifications on various things of a building, like external walls, internal walls and partitions, roofs, ground floors, upper floors, windows, insulation, landscaping, floor finishes etc. Across these building element categories the Guide provides an extensive, but not complete catalogue of building specifications covering most common building materials. This data is set out as an **A+** to **E** ranking system, where **A+** represents the best environmental performance / least environmental impact, and **E** the worst environmental performance / most environmental impact. BRE has provided a summary environmental rating - The Green Guide rating, which is a measure of overall environmental impacts covering the issues Climate change, Water extraction, Mineral resource extraction, Stratospheric ozone depletion, Human toxicity, Ecotoxicity to Freshwater, Nuclear waste (higher level), Ecotoxicity to land, Waste disposal, Fossil fuel depletion, Eutrophication, Photochemical ozone creation, Acidification.
Special Features	➢ BRE Global has created the Green Guide Calculator to enable BREEAM and CSH assessors to quickly and efficiently generate Green Guide ratings for a significant proportion of specifications not listed in the Green Guide Online. ➢ Building Research Establishment (BRE) provides large number of other services. ➢ BRE also create BRE Academy to foster the education in this regard.

Arrangement Pattern	Materials and components are arranged on an elemental basis so that designers and specifiers can compare and select from comparable systems or materials as they compile their specification.
Remarks	BRE has huge number of specifications on building's elemental specifications which help a lot in this regard.
Comparable Tools	➢ The International Organization for Standardization (http://www.iso.org/iso/home.htm)
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