



3 Basic Steps for High Performance Product Selection

When choosing a product for a NC HealthyBuilt Home, it is important that you look at why you are using a product, what you want the product to do, what the most important selection qualities are and what its' use in the home will be. Here are some basic steps that you can follow to make your decision.

1. Create a QR List: Make a list of **Qualities or Requirements (QR)** that a product may need to meet. Then, prioritize the list from most important to least important, allowing the most important characteristics to guide you in your **Research** for potential products.

Remember: *In a HealthyBuilt Home, consider the 3 P's---People, Planet and Pocketbook.*

Potential considerations for Qualities or Requirements that a product may need to meet:

- Created locally
- Recyclable
- Made of recycled/easily grown materials
- Durable
- Visible/Invisible
- Beautiful
- Non or low-toxic
- Weather resistant

2. Research: Gather all potential products technical information that may meet your requirements and that you are willing to consider. Some of this technical information may include:

- Manufacturers' information such as Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
- Product Certification or Labeling
- Product warranties
- Recycled content data
- Environmental statements
- Durability information

3. Selection:

- Ask Supplier for references to those who have used the product
- Understand warranty and support services for the product
- Confirm availability and support network for a product in your area
- Confirm cost of material
- Confirm installation requirements and costs
- If you are a builder and using new "green" products, add products gradually to your arsenal
- If you are a homeowner or buyer, make sure that your builder is willing to install the product