

Herman Miller’s environmental advocacy is long-standing and comprehensive. Since the 1950s, we have been, in the words of founder D.J. De Pree, “stewards of the environment.” Today over 400 employees play a direct role in the work of 9 different environmental groups engaged in efforts from improving air quality and reducing waste to green energy, LEED certification, and design for the environment.



**Environmental Product Summary**

**ERGON 3® CHAIR**

**Design Story:  
The Origin of Ergonomic Office Seating**

In 1976, Herman Miller’s Ergon chair introduced ergonomics to office seating. Bill Stumpf designed the Ergon for both comfort and user health. The chair quickly and easily adjusted to various body sizes and proportions, and reduced physiological stress by providing exceptional spinal support and unrestricted blood flow. Ergon set a new standard for comfortable, healthy, and visually appealing ergonomic seating.

Today’s Ergon 3 chair maintains the original’s proven design while adding new sizes and capabilities to support a diverse, technology-based workforce.

Throughout the Ergon 3 chair’s design and development process, we emphasized environmental responsibility in raw material selection and sourcing. Preference was given to materials derived from renewable and sustainable sources.

**Herman Miller’s Design Protocol**

Our commitment to corporate sustainability naturally includes minimizing the environmental impact of each of our products. Our Design for the Environment team (DfE) applies environmentally sensitive design standards to both new and existing Herman Miller products, utilizing the McDonough-Braungart Cradle-to-Cradle Protocol.

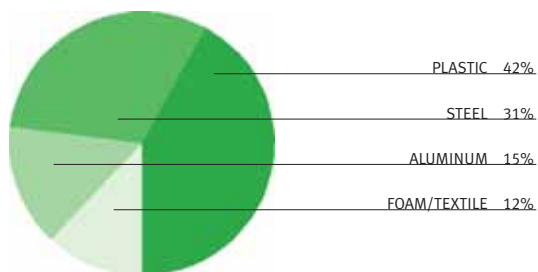
Cradle-to-Cradle goes beyond regulatory compliance to thoroughly evaluate new product designs in three key areas:

- *Material Chemistry and Safety of Inputs*—What chemicals are in the materials we specify, and are they the safest available?

- *Disassembly*—Can we take products apart at the end of their useful life, to recycle their materials?
- *Recyclability*—Do the materials contain recycled content, and more importantly, can the materials be recycled at the end of the product’s useful life?

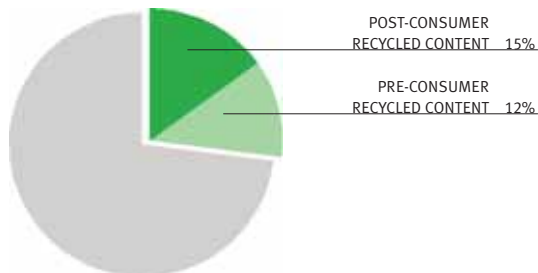
**Material Content**

The Ergon 3 chair’s components are constructed from plastic, steel, aluminum, and foam/textile.



The Ergon 3 chair is up to **80 percent recyclable** at the end of its useful life.

Ergon 3 consists of **27-percent recycled** materials. The recycled content breaks down to 15-percent post-consumer and 12-percent pre-consumer content.



- All die-cast aluminum components are made from 100-percent recycled material and are 100 percent recyclable.
- Steel components contain approximately 25-percent recycled content and are 100 percent recyclable as a technical nutrient.
- Most metal components have a powder-coat paint finish that emits negligible volatile organic compounds (VOCs).
- Plastic components are identified with an ASTM recycling code whenever possible, to aid in returning these materials to the recycling stream.
- Foam and textile materials are part of an open-loop system and can be recycled into everything from automotive components to carpet padding at the end of their current life.
- Textiles used in Herman Miller products can be made from natural or synthetic fibers. Several textiles are available with 100-percent recycled content.
- *Returnable/Recyclable Packaging*—Packaging materials include corrugated cardboard and a polyethylene plastic bag. These materials are part of a closed-loop recycling system, meaning they can be recycled repeatedly.
  - Whenever possible, shipments between Herman Miller and its suppliers include the use of pallets and other returnable packaging to minimize waste.
  - On large North American orders, disposable packaging can be replaced with reusable shipping blankets.

### Manufacturing Process

- *Green Energy and Emissions*—The Ergon 3 chair is manufactured at Herman Miller's GreenHouse seating operations in West Michigan using green energy. Herman Miller is committed to the use of 100-percent renewable energy by the year 2020. The company is similarly committed to achieving a goal of zero air and water emissions from manufacturing by 2020.
- *Waste*—All solid wastes are recycled to the greatest extent possible.
- *Worker Health and Safety*—Herman Miller strives to meet or exceed OSHA standards.
- *ISO*—The Ergon 3 is manufactured in West Michigan at an ISO 14001-certified site.
- This plant also is a LEED Pioneer building.

### Product Performance

- Easy assembly for cost-efficiency and quick parts replacement.
- Easy disassembly for recyclability.
- Designed for durability, an important environmental criterion.
- Backed by Herman Miller's 12-year, 24/7 warranty.

### Indoor Air Quality

The Ergon 3 is GREENGUARD™ certified as a low-emitting product that meets current indoor air quality standards. GREENGUARD-certified products also meet the emissions requirements of the State of Washington Furniture Systems criteria and the U.S. EPA Procurement Guidelines for Office Furniture.

### Corporate Environmental Policy

For more information on Herman Miller's Corporate Environmental Policy and other environmental efforts, see our Environmental Advocacy booklet, or visit the "Environment" section of [www.HermanMiller.com](http://www.HermanMiller.com).

### Supplier Support

At Herman Miller, we are committed to working closely with our suppliers to reduce our collective impact on the environment. We not only encourage our suppliers to minimize their operations' environmental impacts, but require they assist us in decreasing our facilities' negative environmental effects, as well.

### LEED

The Ergon 3 chair may contribute to LEED credits due to its returnable/reusable packaging, durability, pre-consumer and post-consumer recycled content, and GREENGUARD certification. Depending on project location, Ergon 3 also may contribute to a LEED Regional Materials credit. Please contact your Herman Miller representative for detailed LEED credit sheets.

***It's important to note that no interior furnishings, individually or collectively, can guarantee a specific number of points for LEED certification.***

Herman Miller complies with the Federal Trade Commission's Part 260 Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims.