Plywood
3.58 m^3

Clay
9.80 m^3

Aluminium
0.03m^3

Aluminium Recycled
0.20 m^3

Steel
0.04 m^3

Steel Recycled
0.27 m^3

Stainless Steel
0.02 m^3

Sandstone
7.75 m^3

Glass
0.44m^3

Glass Recycled
0.68 m^3

Granite
0.50 m^3

Concrete Pre-cast
3.32 m^3

Vinyl
0.28 m^3

Hardwood
5.95 m^3

Rubber
0.25 m^3

Linoleum
0.69 m^3

Softwood
9.80 m^3

in the Scale of Carbon

As a measure of sustainability, buildings, materials and processes are commonly judged by their 'embodied carbon' – the amount of carbon dioxide (CO_2) that is produced during their operation or manufacture. CO_2 accounts for 76% of all greenhouse gas emissions making it the primary contributor towards climate change, but, by its nature, quantities of this colourless gas remain frustratingly intangible.

In the Scale of Carbon brings carbon dioxide emissions out of the abstract by physically representing the volume of various architectural materials that can be produced for one tonne of CO_2 emissions. The larger the cube, the greater the volume of material that can be manufactured for the same quantity of CO_2 emissions.

by Materials Council

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