

Third-Party Ratings to Earn Cool Walls Pilot Credit

Free, third-party-verified solar reflectance and thermal emittance data are now available to easily earn LEED v4.1 Heat Island Mitigation with Cool Walls pilot credit. Audrey McGarrell, project manager at the Cool Roof Rating Council, prepared this document for LEEDuser.

In April 2021, the [Heat Island Mitigation with Cool Walls](#) pilot credit (SSpc154) was added to LEED BD+C: New Construction v4 and v4.1. Since then, LEEDuser members have expressed difficulty finding solar reflectance (SR) and thermal emittance (TE) values for paint and other exterior wall materials in order to earn the credit. In September 2022, an online product directory was released by the [Cool Roof Rating Council \(CRRC\)](#) to help users easily find credible radiative property data for exterior wall products.

The CRRC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that has operated a third-party rating program for [roofing materials](#) for over 20 years, which helps LEED users identify roofing products that can be used to earn the Sustainable Sites [Heat Island Reduction](#) credit. The CRRC now offers a similar database for exterior walls.

CRRC Rated Wall Products									
83 results									
Sort by Date Added ↓									
CRRC PROD ID.	MANUFACTURER	BRAND AND MODEL	PRODUCT TYPE	COLOR	SOLAR REFLECTANCE		THERMAL EMITTANCE		
					INITIAL	3 YEAR	INITIAL	3 YEAR	
W111-0001	ThermaCote, Inc.	ThermaCote® ThermaCote® D59	Paint / Architectural Coating	Bright White	0.77	Pending	0.89	Pending	⋮
W125-0001	NOROO Paint & Coatings Co., Ltd.	Energy Saver Cool Wall White	Paint / Architectural Coating	Bright White	0.81	Pending	0.89	Pending	⋮
W123-0001	The Garland Company, Inc.	Tuff-Coat White 1643-WHITE	Paint / Architectural Coating	Bright White	0.84	Pending	0.88	Pending	⋮
W123-0002	The Garland Company, Inc.	Tuff-Coat Sierra White 1643-SIERRA WHITE	Paint / Architectural Coating	Off-White	0.68	Pending	0.90	Pending	⋮
W115-0001-001	Behr Paint Company	BEHR PREMIUM PLUS® EXTERIOR PAINT PPU4-12 NATURAL ALMOND EXTERIOR FLAT MEDIUM BASE NO. 4400 PPU4-12 NATURAL ALMOND EXTERIOR SATIN ENAMEL MEDIUM BASE NO. 9400 PPU4-12 NATURAL ALMOND EXTERIOR SEMI-GLOSS ENAMEL MEDIUM BASE NO. 3400 PPU4-12 NATURAL ALMOND INTERIOR/EXTERIOR HI-GLOSS ENAMEL MEDIUM BASE NO. 8400 PPU4-12 NATURAL ALMOND	Paint / Architectural Coating	Tan	0.61	Pending	0.89	Pending	⋮

Image: [CRRC Rated Wall Products Directory](#)

The [CRRC Rated Wall Products Directory](#) contains SR and TE values for products that have been tested by CRRC-approved testing laboratories and verified by the CRRC as an independent third party. As of June 2023, the Directory contained over 80 product ratings. The ratings can be searched, sorted, and filtered by numerous characteristics, including color, manufacturer, and brand/model name, making it easy to quickly find the data you need.

The image shows a user interface for filtering and sorting products. On the left, the 'Product Type' dropdown is open, showing a list of materials with checkboxes: One-Coat Stucco, Three-Coat Stucco, Metal, Vinyl Siding, Insulated Vinyl Siding, Polypropylene siding, Paint / Architectural Coating, Retro-Reflective Material, Architectural Fabric, Metal Composite Material, Polymer Film, Fiber Cement Siding, Painted Wood Composite, and Masonry. In the center, the 'Colors' dropdown is open, showing a list of colors with checkboxes: Red, Yellow, Blue, Bright White, Tan, Black, Metallic, Orange, Green, Purple, Off-White, Gray, Brown, Variegated (Multicolor), Beige, Pink, and Taupe. On the right, the 'Sort by Date Added' dropdown is open, showing options: Date Added (checked), CRRP Product ID, Manufacturer, Brand and Model, Product Type, Solar Reflectance Initial Value, Solar Reflectance 3 Year Value, Thermal Emittance Initial Value, and Thermal Emittance 3 Year Value. Below these, the sorting order is set to 'Ascending' (checked) with 'Descending' as an option.

Examples of the filter (left and center) and sorting (right) features of the CRRC Rated Wall Products Directory. Image: CRRC.

The ratings can also be filtered for a specific range of SR or TE values, making it easy to find products that comply with the pilot credit requirements: initial (i.e., unweathered) SR of at least 0.60 and initial TE of at least 0.75).

The image shows two side-by-side filter panels. The left panel is for 'Solar Reflectance' and the right panel is for 'Thermal Emittance'. Both panels have a dropdown menu set to 'Filter by minimum initial or 3 year aged values'. Each panel has two input fields: 'Initial' and '3 Year Aged'. The 'Initial' field for Solar Reflectance is set to 0.60, and the '3 Year Aged' field is set to 0.00. The 'Initial' field for Thermal Emittance is set to 0.75, and the '3 Year Aged' field is set to 0.00. The range for all fields is min: -0 and max: 1.00.

Filter by SR and TE features of the CRRC Rated Wall Products Directory. Image: CRRC.

The CRRC Rated Wall Products Directory is completely free to use and doesn't require an account to access. It is available at <https://coolroofs.org/directory/wall>. CRRC staff are available at walls@coolroofs.org to assist with any questions.