

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRACTICES

Building design practices based on the principles of sustainability emphasize the efficient use of energy, water and materials, and focus on the prevention of environmental degradation associated with buildings and infrastructure.

Sustainable design integrates a man made structure with the natural environment and takes advantage of synergies that exist between the structure and its surroundings. This can reduce a building's reliance on mechanical and lighting systems, lowering capital costs and creating operational savings throughout the life of the building.

Sustainable design also emphasizes the relationship between the building occupants and the workspace, working to create an indoor environment that is safe, comfortable and productive. Construction materials are evaluated based on their life cycle performance and the building as a whole is considered for its long term durability and adaptability.

Sustainable building design can be divided into six categories:

- Sustainable Site Selection and Design
- Water Efficiency
- Energy Performance
- Material Selection
- Indoor Environmental Quality
- Design Process