

CRADLE TO CRADLE CERTIFIED PRODUCTS STANDARD, VERSION 4.0

PRODUCT ELIGIBILITY

March 2021

Products Eligible for Certification

The Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Products Program applies to products. For certification purposes, a “product” is defined as any physical item that can be routinely and individually purchased from the certification applicant by other entities. This definition includes materials, sub-assemblies, and finished products.

Please see the Cradle to Cradle Certified Products Registry on the Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute (C2CPII) website for a complete listing of all currently certified products. To determine the eligibility for a product type that is not currently certified, please contact C2CPII before submitting a certification application or beginning a product assessment. C2CPII reserves the right to refuse to certify a product type for which the standard is not currently designed to certify, or is determined to not align with C2C principles in its sole discretion.

For a current list of product types that are not eligible for certification, see sections below.

Products Not Eligible for the Bronze Achievement Level in Material Health

Children’s products, cosmetics, and personal care products are not eligible for certification at the Bronze achievement level in the Material Health category (i.e., they must meet the Silver achievement level requirements or higher in Material Health). The intent is to ensure they do not contain carcinogens, mutagens, or reproductive toxicants (CMRs); persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic substances (PBTs); very persistent and very bioaccumulative substances (vPvBs); or substances that cause an equivalent level of concern.

Products Not Eligible for the Bronze or Silver Achievement Level in Product Circularity

Eligible single-use plastic products and plastic packaging products (when certified as a separate product) are not eligible for certification at the Bronze or Silver achievement level in the Product Circularity category (i.e., they must meet the Gold or Platinum achievement level requirements in Product Circularity). The intent is to ensure alignment with the Cradle to Cradle principles for

these typically non-circular product types. An exemption is made for plastic packaging that is part of a refill/reuse system (e.g., soap refill pouches), which may be certified at any achievement level in the Product Circularity category.

Products Not Eligible for Certification

The following product types are not eligible for Cradle to Cradle certification:

- 1) Products that are contrary to the intent of the Cradle to Cradle principles, including:
 - a) Weapons or other items intended to harm, kill, hurt, or incapacitate living beings (e.g. guns, tasers, mace, barbed wire, electric fencing),
 - b) Tobacco and other products intended or used for smoking or vaping (e.g. pipes),
 - c) Products used exclusively to produce non-renewable fuel or electricity (nuclear reactor equipment, fracking fluid, oil rigs, etc.),
 - d) Products that consume nuclear or non-renewable fuel (e.g. gasoline car; does not apply to electricity purchased from the grid or to plugged products),
 - e) Products containing material from threatened, vulnerable, or endangered species (e.g. African mahogany (*Khaya* spp.), Brazilian rosewood (*Dalbergia nigra*), Rhodesian teak (*Baikiaea plurijuga*); see the Definitions section for the definition of threatened, vulnerable, and endangered),
 - f) Products containing:
 - i) Material and substances derived from vertebrates, and invertebrates where there is clear evidence of sentience (e.g. cephalopods), that are killed primarily or only for their hides, skins, feathers, or other fibers and parts (e.g. snake, crocodile, alligator, lizard, and galuchat/stingray skins),
 - ii) Down, feathers, or hair from any live plucked animal (e.g. ducks, geese) and substances derived from these materials,
 - iii) Fur, including when the fur is shorn or otherwise removed from the hide or skin. (e.g. fox, mink, beaver, ermine, and rabbit including angora rabbit fur/wool).
 - g) Products that are chemicals or raw materials that cannot be optimized (e.g. monomers that are carcinogens, mutagens, and/or reproductive toxicants (CMRs),
 - h) Products for which the core functionality is intrinsically tied to toxic active ingredients, thus rendering the product non-optimizable (e.g. herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, and antimicrobial products with x-assessed antimicrobial agents) or textiles/apparel with such products intentionally added.
 - i) Disinfectants (including those used for human hygiene) containing active ingredients/substances that are not approved for use per leading regulations. This is defined as disinfectants containing substances that are not approved for use in the relevant product type per the European Union's Biocidal Products Regulation (e.g. antimicrobial cleaning products, soaps, or hand sanitizers/hand rubs with triclosan or triclocarban).
 - j) Products that are designed/intended to be non-circular or promote non-circularity:

- i) The following single use plastic products: cotton buds/swab sticks, cutlery (forks, knives, spoons, chopsticks), plates, straws, beverage stirrers, balloon sticks, food and beverage containers (including beverage cups) made from expanded polystyrene, bags < 50 microns (e.g., grocery, waste, and courier bags)*, agricultural mulch, and disposable plastic items for hotels. *An exception to this is food bags with a thickness of < 15 microns intended for composting.
 - ii) Oxo-degradable additives and plastics containing these additives,
 - iii) Plastic microbeads and products containing plastic microbeads, and
 - iv) Products marketed as/for throw-away (e.g. products with the terms “waste”, “disposable” or “garbage” in the product name, or products intended for landfill or incineration).
- k) Packaging for any product type that is contrary to the intent of the Cradle to Cradle principles and thus not eligible for certification.
- 2) Products that the program requirements were not written to address, including:
- a) Food, beverages, and other products intended for ingestion,
 - b) Pharmaceuticals, including products and substances for which claims of a pharmaceutical nature are made; see the Definitions section for the definition of pharmaceutical.
 - c) Medical devices and products for which specialized biocompatibility testing is required that is not included in the Cradle to Cradle Certified Material Health Assessment Methodology (e.g. syringe, pacemaker),
 - d) Products that are or contain live multicellular organisms (e.g. live animals, plants, seeds),
 - e) Fuels and other products intended for combustion during use (e.g. candles, fireworks, explosives), and
 - f) Buildings.
- 3) Products that are not in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Note: Some requirements in the standard address activities that are also subject to regulation by local, state, or federal authorities. However, nothing contained in the Cradle to Cradle Certified Product Standard changes legal regulatory requirements or prescribes how compliance is to be achieved. Demonstration of compliance with certain key regulations is required in some sections of the standard, but this in no way changes the underlying regulatory requirements.