

How It Works

The Tool employs a numeric scoring system. Users fill out a Web-based, easy-to-use product assessment. The questions posed address environmental impact categories examined in the Tool, including materials, waste, and garment treatments. Based on the information entered, it calculates a cumulative sustainability score. A product will gain points based on progress toward environmental objectives and specific scoring criteria for each category (noted in the chart below and detailed in the respective sections of this document).

Materials	Waste	Garment Treatments
<p>Considers: fabrics (including blends), trims, coating/lamination, post-industrial or post-consumer end-of-life (single fiber garment)</p> <p>Scoring: <i>Fabric scores are based on scientific assessment of processing stages (considering growing and extraction practices, chemistry, energy intensity, energy source, water intensity and land use, waste, recycled content, and end-of-life), use of Environmentally Preferred Materials (EPM) trims, coating/lamination, and recyclability.</i></p>	<p>Considers: pattern marker efficiency</p> <p>Scoring: <i>Percentage of waste created in fabric cutting scrap at the garment factory for each product scored.</i></p>	<p>Considers: post-assembly garment treatments, including, dyeing, laundering, distressing</p> <p>Scoring: <i>A hierarchy of point deductions that takes into consideration the relative environmental impacts of different types of washes and treatments.</i></p>

Category points are added together and placed in a range of “Good”, “Better”, “Best”, or “Needs Improvement”. “Best” designates a relatively more sustainable product. For example, a Best level product may be made with 100 percent recycled polyester, lacks garment treatments, uses no trims, and leaves little cutting waste on the factory floor. However, it may not be an entirely closed-loop product. Indicative of the industry, there is room for improvement, even at the “Best” level. The Tool takes into consideration today’s business realities of price, quality, performance, and technology limits. Its strength is in the education and promotion of Environmentally Preferred Materials (EPMs: <http://www.nikebiz.com/crreport/content/environment/4-2-2-environmentally-preferred-materials.php?cat=product-design>) and the ability to make more informed design choices, increasing efficiency and reducing waste.