

Hempcrete

Hempcrete is composed of the dried woody cores of hemp fibers, lime, and water. While some innovative load-bearing applications are being explored, the material is best suited as insulation or infill for walls.

Hazard Resilience

Wildfire



Fire-resistant
(1+ hours of exposure)

Rain and Floods



Breathable and resilient to mould

Windy



Typically used as infill, so has less influence on wind resilience

Extreme temperatures



High thermal efficiency and moderate insulation

Seismic



Flexible and lightweight, leading to seismic resilience

Unlike wood, hempcrete is pest-resistant. Hempcrete also has the unique ability to sequester carbon, meaning that it can be net-negative in embodied carbon emissions. The productivity of hemp crops, as well as their abundance in BC, further highlight the materials potential as a sustainable and climate resilient option. However, due to its low compressive strength, the material remains feasibly limited in its application to insulation or infill. Some builders also mention hempcrete has a social stigma associated with it. Finally, its absence in the Building Codes and Regulations further complicates its use.

As of 2025, recent and credible public estimates of costs were not available. Estimates may be available through local suppliers. Hempcrete may be more expensive than standard infill options.

