

BAFTA ALBERT SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION GUIDE

Construction Department

Every department in our industry has a part to play in the journey toward a low-carbon future. The Construction Department plays a key role in the production's success. From material choices to construction methods, the way teams design, source, assemble and deconstruct each element can make a real impact on creating more sustainable productions.

This guide includes general considerations as well as a checklist your department can use to create its own action plan that will help the production achieve BAFTA Albert certification.

General Considerations

General Considerations for ALL Departments
Start early. The sooner you plan for sustainability, the bigger your impact. Build it into your production from day one, so it's not an afterthought, but the foundation.
Understand your impact and redirect. If you want to reduce your environmental impact, you have to know what it is. Encourage your productions to use BAFTA Albert's toolkit to help you track emissions and decarbonise. From this, you can take clear and direct action on the largest areas of your environmental impact.
Define and communicate your intentions. Once you've got a plan, make sure to share it so everyone has every opportunity to know and join in.
Attend BAFTA Albert sustainability training and workshops.
Source locally to minimise transport emissions.
Eliminate single-use items wherever reusable alternatives exist.
Use recycled, certified sustainable, or biodegradable materials.
Engage with your suppliers by sharing your sustainability goals and choosing suppliers with sustainability credentials, or by using the BAFTA Albert Suppliers Directory.
Ensure recycling bins are available and labelled clearly.
Turn off unused appliances , lighting, and electronics.
Promote sustainable practices in briefings and meetings.
Reduce the materials used. Reuse props, costumes, sets, etc. Recycle materials correctly to avoid landfill.
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Set Build Checklist

Each action below is tagged with the Certification Question code(s) it supports. This shows how day-to-day department activity feeds into the certification. The checklist itself isn't evidence, but working through it will help ensure you're supporting the production as a whole, in the right direction on its sustainability journey.

The actions correlate with Certification Question codes 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 2.6 and 2.7

Pre-Production & Sourcing (1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 2.6 and 2.7)

- ☐ Look for opportunities for reuse or adaptation, reducing the quantity of raw materials used, aligning clearly with the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle).
- ☐ Design modular sets for easy removal or IP adaptation.
- ☐ Coordinate with the Construction Department on sustainable material choices.
- ☐ Collaborate with the Production and Art Department to create a strike plan to reduce waste and increase reuse.
- ☐ Design end-of-life reuse of materials.
- ☐ Integrate reused/reclaimed materials into design.
- ☐ Avoid foam and PVC by using cardboard wall skins or other low impact materials.
- ☐ Ensure materials are responsibly sourced.
- ☐ Look for timber that is FSC-certified (the product itself must be certified, not just the supplier).
- ☐ Use standard dimensions for set design to encourage reuse after production.

Production (1.1, 1.3, 2.6 and 2.7)

- ☐ Avoid polystyrene and spray foam in set construction; if used, prevent polystyrene debris around workshops.
- ☐ Reuse left over paint before buying new/use as primer.
- ☐ Use low VOC, or water-based, paints, stains and varnishes.
- ☐ Follow hazardous guidelines for waste disposal (paint).
- ☐ Track fuel consumption and energy use and give data to production team for carbon calculation.

After wrap (1.3 and 2.7)

- ☐ Recycle construction waste (excluding specialist items).
- ☐ Use a reputable contractor to ensure waste is disposed of correctly and create an accurate report.
- ☐ Donate or recycle the majority of set components, storing the rest for reuse.