



Could Cardboard Interiors Really Stack Up?

Recycle

The benefits of repurposing, reusing and recycling building materials are proving to be extensive.

Not only does this process save on environmental impacts due to the fact that more resources aren't being produced for projects, but it is also generally cost effective, as second-hand materials always come at a lower cost than brand new products and materials.

Taking this idea to new extremes is an interior design trend that sees one of our most basic everyday materials transformed into furniture and structural interior elements: cardboard.

The use of cardboard in small-scale architecture is not a new concept. Packing boxes, recycling bins and generally disposable items are often made out of this lightweight material. However, larger scale architecture involving cardboard furnishings and structural elements is proving to be a viable – and green – construction product.

Design concepts and developments that include cardboard as a key element are growing. The Green Cities 2012 Conference in Sydney showcased an exciting 'Extreme Green' design concept for a residential apartment fitout in Italy, winning over the judging panel with its innovation, underlying sustainable context and the design possibilities that cardboard creates.

The Paperpedic bed by Australian company Karton is completely constructed out of recycled cardboard and can carry a load of up to one tonne due to its clever weight load dispersion system. The furniture line is cost-effective at approximately \$350 for the entire bedroom package, meaning the concept cuts both carbon and costs....

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