



# Wood vs. Concrete: Which is the Best Material for Skateparks? For our Planet?

## Wood vs. Concrete

Which is better for the community, our earth, wood-built skateparks or concrete skateparks?

Concrete skateparks have a larger carbon footprint than wood skateparks because concrete production is energy-intensive and generates significant greenhouse gas emissions. The production of cement, a key component of concrete, emits a substantial amount of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere. In addition, the transport and installation of concrete can also generate significant emissions. In contrast, wood is a renewable and biodegradable material that requires less energy to produce and transport. The production of wood products also stores carbon, which can help mitigate the effects of climate change. In addition, wooden skateparks require less maintenance and are often replaceable in sections, which can reduce waste and extend the park's life. Wooden skateparks offer a more sustainable and environmentally friendly alternative to concrete skateparks. However, it's worth noting that other factors, such as local availability of materials and terrain suitability, can also impact the overall sustainability of a skatepark.

### Environmental benefits of wood skateparks over concrete skateparks:

- 1. Carbon Sequestration:** Wood is a renewable resource that can store atmospheric carbon dioxide. Trees absorb carbon throughout their lifetimes, and when wood from those trees is used in construction, the carbon remains locked up for the life of the building. In contrast, concrete production releases large amounts of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere.
- 2. Lower Energy Consumption and Emissions:** Making concrete requires significant energy, producing high greenhouse gas emissions. In contrast, timber structures require less energy to produce, transport, and install. The use of wood in construction can significantly reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions over the life cycle of a building.
- 3. Sustainability:** Wood is one of the few renewable construction materials available, making it a highly sustainable choice for building. In addition, wood construction technologies have improved drastically over the years, allowing for production of high-quality wood buildings that are both durable and aesthetically pleasing.
- 4. Reduced Waste:** Concrete production generates large amounts of waste, including leftover cement paste, aggregates, and water. In contrast, wood processing generates far less waste, and any waste generated can be used for other construction purposes or recycled.
- 5. Easy to Retrofit:** Retrofitting wood buildings is a relatively straightforward process that requires fewer resources than retrofitting concrete structures. Thus, makes wood structures a more sustainable and energy-efficient spaces.

Overall, wood buildings offer a more environmentally-friendly alternative to concrete structures, allowing for the creation of sustainable, energy-efficient, and aesthetically pleasing spaces that also reduce waste and emissions.

### Benefits of Skatelite

- High impact resistance
- Excellent water resistance
- Smooth, fast, consistent surfaces
- Easy to install and replace
- Proven in market for nearly 30 years
- High compressive strength
- LEED Credit qualified
- Made in the USA

