



The [United States Department of Agriculture](#) (USDA) provides [certification](#) that the raw materials used in the production of a mattress are produced using methods that preserve the environment and avoid most synthetic materials, such as pesticides and antibiotics. The USDA sets legal standards for the term “organic” through the [National Organic Program](#) (NOP).

[Organic farms](#) and processors preserve natural resources and biodiversity, support animal health and welfare, provide access to the outdoors so that animals can exercise their natural behaviors, only use approved materials, don't genetically modify ingredients, receive annual onsite inspections, and separate organic from non-organic foods.



The [Global Organic Textile Standard](#) (GOTS) certifies that the fiber content of a product is at least 95% certified organic origin by weight.

The [aim of the standard](#) is to define world-wide recognized requirements that ensure organic standards of textiles, from harvesting of raw materials, through environmentally and socially responsible manufacturing, up to labeling in order to provide a credible assurance to the end consumer.

GOTS certification is also used to certify a completed mattresses and certify the final product as organic.



The [Global Organic Latex Standard](#) (GOLS) certifies that the latex used in a mattress contains at least 95% certified organic raw material of its total weight.

[This standard](#) describes the requirements of processing, traceability, separation, identification, record keeping, quality control, environmental management, social compliance, labeling and distribution of semi-processed and processed final products made from certified organic raw rubber latex.



[Greenguard certification](#) ensures that a product has met some of the world's most rigorous and comprehensive standards for low emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) into indoor air.

[Greenguard Gold](#) offers stricter certification criteria, considers safety factors to account for sensitive individuals (such as children and the elderly), and ensures that a product is acceptable for use in environ-



[OEKO-TEX® Standard 100](#) is an independent testing and certification system for many products, including fabrics and mattresses. The [test criteria](#) for harmful substances includes testing for illegal substances, legally regulated substances, known harmful chemicals that aren't legally regulated, and additional parameters for health care.

In order to be certified OEKO-TEX® Standard 100, all components of the mattress have to comply with the [required criteria](#) without exception.

OEKO-TEX® also maintains a list of active chemical products that have been inspected by independent toxicologists and assessed as harmless to human health when used as indicated and intended. These are divided into categories of products with biological activity, flame-retardant products, and accepted polymer fibers.



[Cradle To Cradle](#) certified products are evaluated according to health impact, materials re-use, renewable energy, water stewardship and social fairness. A product receives an achievement level in each category – Basic, Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum – with the lowest achievement level representing the product's overall mark.

The [Environmental Protection Encouragement Agency](#) (EPEA) is a Cradle To Cradle certifying agency.



Germany's [Eco Institut](#) is an internationally-respected independent materials testing laboratory. They perform a wide variety of tests for many different products and industries, focusing on emissions testing and analyses of compounds on selected parameters such as heavy metals, pesticides and halogen organic compounds.

Their [test criteria for Eco Institut mattress certification](#) is very strict.



[Oregon Tilth](#) is the most-respected certifier of organic materials in the United States. They have led the way in organic agriculture and sustainable products methods, playing a leading role in the formation of the USDA National Organic Program and expanding organic sustainability beyond agriculture and textiles and other products. Their focus areas are conservation, marketplace, policy and public health.

[Oregon Tilth certifies products according to the Global Organic Textiles Standards](#) (GOTS).



[CertiPUR-US®](#) is a not-for-profit, voluntary certification program for foam used in mattresses and furniture. Certification is based on standard chemical analysis, emissions evaluations, environmental guidelines, physical performance, compliance affidavits and random verification.

Foams are analyzed by independent and accredited testing laboratories to meet [CertiPUR-US® standards](#). These standards include:

- Made without ozone depleters.
- Made without PBDE flame retardants.
- Made without mercury, lead and other heavy metals.
- Made without formaldehyde.
- Made without phthalates regulated by the CPSC.
- Low VOC emissions for indoor air quality (<.5 ppm). Does not mean a foam will be odorless.



[BiOH® polyols](#) are [soy-based ingredients](#) for flexible polyurethane foam. Made from soybean oil, BiOH® polyols can replace a portion of the petroleum-based ingredients in polyurethane flexible foam and help have a positive impact upon the environment.

Currently, most BiOH® foams can replace approximately 5-20% of their petroleum component with soy-based ingredients and still result in a high-quality product.