



# the Green home

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Green is much more than a trend – it's a lifestyle, one that's easier to incorporate into your home than you may think. From complete renovations to simply changing the colour of a room, there are eco-friendly solutions that are good for the environment and your health.

**A**yA Kitchens and Baths takes Green to the next level, with their Green Design 2.0 initiative. Made up of several components, Green Design 2.0 is implemented anytime AyA undertakes any kind of project, from renovations to building LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)-certified developments.

AyA starts with a healthy home environment, using urea-formaldehyde-free plywood cabinets and a line of cost-effective urea-formaldehyde-free particle board. They also use low HAPS (hazardous air pollutants) finishes and an exclusive UV-cured top-coat finish.

Recycling is key to any Green initiative, and AyA's standard line of cabinets, as well as its new urea-formaldehyde-free particle board cabinets, are made of 100 per cent recycled and recovered particle board. They even bring computers into the mix – by using the latest computerized technology, AyA is able to optimize material utilization and keep waste to a minimum. Any waste that is produced is then supplied to local artisans who use the solid wood off-cuts to create household items.

Recently initiating an energy conservation plan, AyA is committed to reducing its carbon footprint. Working toward Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification, they hope to set an example in the Canadian wood products industry by supporting reforestation.

Another important part of Green Design 2.0 is AyA's involvement in the community. By partnering with school woodworking programs and Habitat for Humanity, they are able to assist valuable community projects, as well as minimize waste products.

[www.ayakitchens.com](http://www.ayakitchens.com)

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