

# Selecting Materials and Finishes for Architecture

## Part 1: Dialogue

**Isabella (Architect):** We need to finalize the **material palette** for the new office building. Have you reviewed the samples?

**Liam (Colleague):** Yes, I did. The client wants a modern look, but we also need to consider **sustainable sourcing** for the materials.

**Isabella:** Agreed. The flooring is a key decision. I was thinking of using bamboo because of its **thermal performance** and eco-friendliness.

**Liam:** That's a good choice, but we also need to check its **acoustic properties** to ensure it minimizes noise.

**Isabella:** True. For the walls, should we go with natural stone or composite panels?

**Liam:** Composite panels might be better since they are lighter and have a more consistent **finish schedule**.

**Isabella:** Good point. Also, let's ensure all finishes align with the project's sustainability goals.

**Liam:** Right. I'll double-check which materials are certified for **sustainable sourcing** before we finalize our selections.

**Isabella:** That's important. Let's put together a draft **finish schedule** for the client review next week.

**Liam:** Sounds good. I'll start organizing the details so we can present a well-structured proposal.

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## Part 2: Comprehension Questions

1. Why is **sustainable sourcing** important for material selection?  
(A) It improves the durability of all materials

- (B) It reduces environmental impact  
(C) It guarantees lower costs  
(D) It increases construction speed
2. What does **thermal performance** refer to in material selection?  
(A) How well a material regulates temperature  
(B) The strength of the material under stress  
(C) The sound absorption ability of a surface  
(D) The color options available for the material
3. Why is **acoustic properties** a factor in choosing materials?  
(A) It determines how much sound a material absorbs or reflects  
(B) It affects the overall durability of a material  
(C) It speeds up the installation process  
(D) It improves the energy efficiency of a building
4. What is a **finish schedule** used for?  
(A) Managing the project timeline  
(B) Tracking delivery dates of materials  
(C) Coordinating work shifts for contractors  
(D) Documenting the selected materials and finishes for construction
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### Part 3: Vocabulary with Definitions

- **Material palette (素材パレット)** – A selection of materials chosen for a project based on design and function.
- **Finish schedule (仕上げ表)** – A document detailing the materials and finishes used in construction, specifying their location and application.
- **Sustainable sourcing (持続可能な調達)** – The process of selecting materials that are environmentally friendly and responsibly obtained.

- **Thermal performance (熱性能)** – A material’s ability to regulate temperature and improve energy efficiency.
  - **Acoustic properties (音響特性)** – The ability of a material to absorb or reflect sound, impacting noise control in a space.
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#### Part 4: Answer Key

1. **Why is sustainable sourcing important for material selection?**

(B) It reduces environmental impact

2. **What does thermal performance refer to in material selection?**

(A) How well a material regulates temperature

3. **Why is acoustic properties a factor in choosing materials?**

(A) It determines how much sound a material absorbs or reflects

4. **What is a finish schedule used for?**

(D) Documenting the selected materials and finishes for construction