

here's what we mean by...

BPA Free

BPA stands for bisphenol A, an industrial chemical found in polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins. Polycarbonate plastics are often used in containers that store food and beverages, such as water bottles.

All Koozie Group® drinkware is BPA free.

Carbon Neutral

Carbon neutral means that any carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere from a company's activities is balanced by an equivalent amount being removed, usually through offsetting emissions.

Carbon Sink

A carbon sink absorbs more carbon from the atmosphere than it releases, which increases global carbon storage. Examples include gardens, forests, and oceans. Companies use carbon sinks to offset carbon dioxide emissions and achieve carbon neutrality.

Offset

A carbon offset is a certificate representing the reduction of one metric ton (2,205 lb.) of carbon dioxide emissions, the principal cause of climate change. Offsets allow an organization to invest in projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions beyond what it could do through its own actions.

Koozie Group became a CarbonNeutral® certified company in 2023 on Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions, as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Through a third-party partner, the company purchased offsets that support projects independently validated and verified against recognized global standards.

Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA)

CPSIA allows the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission to better regulate the safety of products made and imported for sale in the US. It imposed testing requirements and new acceptable levels for several substances common in most consumer products, especially those designed for children under age 12.

Koozie Group products are rigorously tested to confirm compliance with CPSIA and other North American product safety laws and standards. All plush product is 0+ tested and safe for people of all ages.

Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT)

Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism is a voluntary government-business initiative that builds cooperative relationships to strengthen and improve overall international supply chain and U.S. border security.

Tier II: Only importers have Tier status. C-TPAT Partners gain Tier II status when they have met the minimum security criteria and have completed a validation.

Koozie Group is C-TPAT Tier II certified by U.S. Customs, which evidences our superior commitment to supply chain security. We audit our suppliers and instruct them on measures they must take to improve upon their supply chain security systems and practices.

EcoVadis

Since its founding in 2007, EcoVadis has grown to become the world's largest and most trusted provider of business sustainability ratings, creating a global network of 100,000+ rated companies.

Koozie Group undergoes annual EcoVadis audits to measure against United Nations Sustainability Goals.

EPA SmartWay Shipper

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's SmartWay program helps companies advance supply chain sustainability by measuring, benchmarking, and improving freight transportation efficiency.

Koozie Group maintains Certified EPA SmartWay Shipper status.

Ethically Sourced Cotton

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is blocking imports of certain goods coming from China's Western Xinjiang region due to concerns that factories there are using forced labor. 85% of the cotton produced in China comes from the Xinjiang region.

Koozie Group maps the supply chain for cotton products. We source most of our cotton bags from India and Pakistan and headwear from Bangladesh. We monitor our supply chain through third-party audits and internal audits to ensure no forced labor is used to produce our products.

Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®)

The first FSC® General Assembly gathered in 1993. Today, more than 550 million acres of forest around the globe are certified under the FSC. It is the only system supported by groups such as Greenpeace, Sierra Club, World Wildlife Fund, and National Wildlife Federation.

FSC certification ensures that products come from responsibly managed forests that provide environmental, social, and economic benefits. FSC-certified forests must adhere to the Council's 10 principles and 57 criteria, and FSC-certified products undergo a highly rigorous and credible certification process.

All Koozie Group® Souvenir® Sticky Note™ notepads are made with FSC-certified paper. Over 95% of all calendars are made with either FSC- or SFI-certified paper.



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Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)

Greenhouse gases are gases in the Earth's atmosphere that trap heat. The gases act like the glass walls of a greenhouse – hence the name. Scientists agree greenhouse gases are the cause of global warming and climate change.

Scope 1 & 2 Emissions

Scope 1 emissions are direct greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that occur from sources that are controlled or owned by an organization (e.g., emissions associated with fuel combustion in boilers, furnaces, vehicles). Scope 2 emissions are indirect GHG emissions associated with the purchase of electricity, steam, heat, or cooling. Although scope 2 emissions physically occur at the facility where they are generated, they are accounted for in an organization's GHG inventory because they are a result of the organization's energy use.

Koozie Group began measuring our GHG emissions in 2022 on Scope 1 and Scope 2 as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Using legacy data, we have been able to trace our carbon footprint back to 2017.

Scope 3 Emissions

Scope 3 emissions are the result of activities from assets not owned or controlled by the reporting organization but that the organization indirectly affects in its value chain. Scope 3 emissions include all sources not within an organization's scope 1 and 2 boundaries. There are 15 categories of Scope 3 emissions, both upstream and downstream of a company's operation, including employee commuting, business travel, transportation of raw materials and finished goods, and end-of-life treatment of sold products.

Koozie Group began measuring Scope 3 emissions in 2023.

Keep It. Give It. Factor (KG Factor)

The KG Factor designation helps identify promo solutions that lessen environmental impact through longevity, as determined by an impartial survey of end users. KG Factor products have a high likelihood of being kept or gifted. In fact, four out of five people would keep or give a KG Factor product because it was useful, functional, durable, and attractive.

Over 1,600 Koozie Group® products carry the KG Factor designation. Our goal is that 75% of new products earn the KG Factor.

PPAI Product Safety Awareness Program

We participate in this program, which is a PPAI (Promotional Products Association International) initiative to create confidence in promotional products as an advertising medium at every level.

Prop 65

Proposition 65 requires businesses to provide warnings to Californians about significant exposures to chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm.

All Koozie Group® products are Prop 65 compliant.

Recycled Materials

Recycled Aluminum

Infinitely recyclable, this material finds new life in pens, tumblers, and more.

Recycled Plastics

RABS – Recycled Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene. Used mostly in pens.

RPET – Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate. Used in a variety of different products, from bags to headwear to pens.

RPP – Recycled Polypropylene. Used mostly in bags.

Recycled PVB

Recycled PVB, or polyvinyl butyral, is a synthetic leather made from the repurposing of discarded laminated glass, such as windshields.

Recycling Methods

Post-Consumer

Recycled materials that are produced from goods that have passed through a consumer's hands.

Pre-Consumer

Recycled materials that are produced from scraps or discards created in the manufacturing process.

Scope 1 & 2 Emissions

See Greenhouse Gases

Scope 3 Emissions

See Greenhouse Gases

Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®)

The SFI® is an independent nonprofit organization that believes that sustainable forests are critical to our collective future. They work to advance sustainability through forest-focused collaboration with groups such as landowners, universities, governments, industry leaders, conservation associations, and Indigenous Peoples.

SFI certification ensures that products come from forests that are managed to protect water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, species at risk, and forests with exceptional conservation value.

All Koozie Group® Souvenir® scratch pads and paper mouse pads are made with SFI-certified paper. Over 95% of all calendars are made with either FSC- or SFI-certified paper.

USA Proud Designation

This designation is used for the following:

- Items manufactured in the United States of U.S. content
- Items manufactured in the United States of majority U.S. content
- Items assembled in the United States of less than 50% U.S. content
- Items printed and bound in the United States

Worldly (formerly Higg)

Worldly equips future-forward brands and manufacturers with powerful supply chain intelligence as the basis for taking action; actions that ultimately transform how products are made, marketed, bought, used, and recycled. More than forty thousand brands and manufacturers across the globe rely on their leading sustainability assessments and methodologies to improve their impact.

“This is a **critical time** in the promotional products industry as we address the issues facing our planet. **Sustainability shouldn't be a standalone program—it should be woven into the DNA** of our business practices so that **it just becomes part of who we are and what we do.**”

– Debbie Disparte,
Director of Product Innovation
& Sustainability