

Sustainable Furniture Buyer's Quick Guide (2026)

A one-page cheat sheet from Modern Sense Furniture for Toronto buyers who want furniture that lasts.

Certifications that mean something

- FSC or PEFC for wood (verify license number).
- GOTS for organic cotton / linen upholstery.
- GOLs for natural latex foam.
- Greenguard Gold for low VOC emissions.
- LWG for leather.

Reclaimed wood reality check

- Inconsistent grain, nail holes, checking = real.
- Identical boards across the piece = factory distressed.
- Ask for the source building or origin.

Longevity markers

- Kiln-dried hardwood frame.
- Eight-way hand-tied or sinuous spring suspension.
- Removable, replaceable cushions and covers.
- 10+ year structural warranty.

Red flags

- 'Eco-friendly' with no certification.
- 'Sustainable wood' with no species named.
- Tree-planting offset as the only sustainability story.

Modern Sense Furniture - modernsensefurniture.com - Toronto