

# Environmental Impacts of Footwear for Deckers Outdoor Corporations The Development of a Standard Tool to Predict the

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## DO YOU KNOW THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF YOUR SHOES?

shoes do you own? If you're like the average Bren student, you own 15 pairs. Do you know how much carbon is generated from a pair of shoes? 15 kg. How many pairs of

This equates to 67 million metric tons of  $\rm CO_2$  from American's shoes – more than the total annual  $\rm CO_2$  emissions of Finland.

By changing materials, designers can significantly reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of shoes. Here, a the emissions of a suede satire sneaker is equivalent to that of almost four cotton Satire



Suede: 15 kg CO<sub>2</sub>

Cotton: 4 kg CO<sub>2</sub>

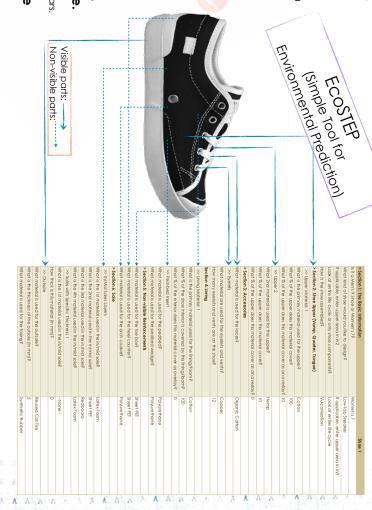
### What impacts did we focus on?

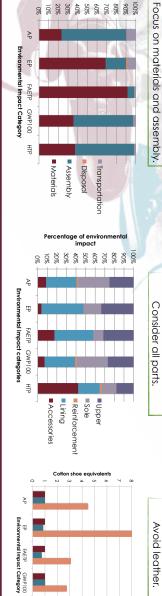
Acidification Potential (AP), Eutrophication Potential (EP), Freshwater Aquatic Ecotoxicity Potential (FAETP) Global Warming Potential for 100 years (GWP100), Human Toxicity Potential for (HTP)

environmental impact of a pair of shoes during the design phase. A life cycle assessment model that predicts the cradle-to-grave

The pair of shoes' is defined as a women's size 7 or men's size 9 shoe that lasts at least two years

## Now, put yourself in a designers' shoes...how would you reduce the environmental impact of footwear?





90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 30%

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Die Cut

Cold Cement

Assembly process Vulcanization -- Leather PET Cotton

Energy input in MJ 8 25

Steam ■ Electricity <

35 8

Use vulcanization or die-cut.

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