

BE THE “CROWBAR”

A Proactive Checklist for Centering Reuse in your Practice

With proactive preparations, a sound knowledge base, and collaborative relationships, you’ll be ready to identify and act on reuse opportunities – whether they come from renovations, tenant improvements, or new builds.

LAYING THE GROUNDWORK

1. Build an Inspiration Library

- a. Collect samples of reused products and materials
- b. Gather images and case studies showcasing reuse in new builds and adaptive reuse projects
- c. Identify brand partners that offer reused or reclaimed products to reference or specify in future designs

2. Plan for Reuse Before You Have a Project

- a. Draft a sample pre-design material audit plan
 - i. Map out scenarios for conducting an audit with your design team and/or a deconstruction partner
- b. Identify “low-hanging fruit” - easy, affordable materials to integrate such as:
 - i. Reclaimed wood
 - ii. Repurposed furniture
- c. Host lunch-and-learns or meetings with suppliers and service providers experienced in reuse

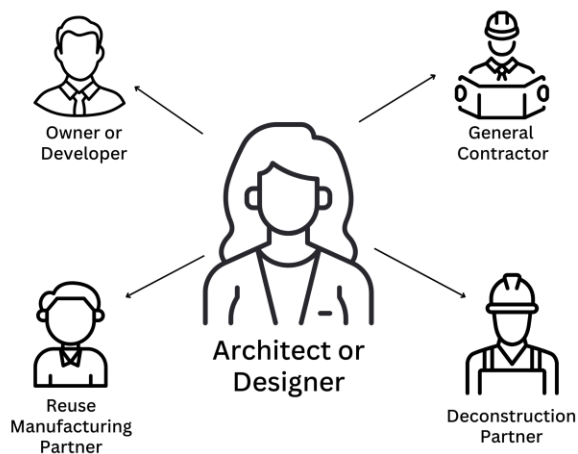
3. Start the Conversation

- a. Reach out to GCs, installers, and manufacturers open to or with experience in reuse
- b. Discuss how collaboration might look in future projects

BUILD YOUR TEAM/NETWORK: Who to Connect With

1. Owners & Developers

- a. Engage with those who:
 - i. Have interest in carbon reduction and sustainable materials
 - ii. May be open to flexible budgets for local or reused materials
 - iii. Could benefit from financial incentives like:
 - 1. Tax credits
 - 2. Reuse or deconstruction grants
 - iv. Want to pursue green building certifications like LEED, WELL, or the Living Building Challenge



2. General Contractors

- a. Look for GCs who:
 - i. Have reuse experience or interest
 - ii. Are open to engagement on reuse early in the design process
 - iii. Work with subcontractors experienced in reused material installations

3. Reuse Manufacturing Partners

- a. Identify the closest Full-Service Reuse Manufacturer
- b. Connect with manufacturers offering innovative reuse-based products
- c. Explore collaborative opportunities and stay informed about available inventories of reused building materials and furnishings. Find out how you can stay informed about updated products and novel inventories.

4. Deconstruction Partners

- a. Identify local deconstruction experts who understand how to recover materials and navigate owner incentives such as tax deductions
- b. Get some cost estimates so you have a reference for cost considerations on a project