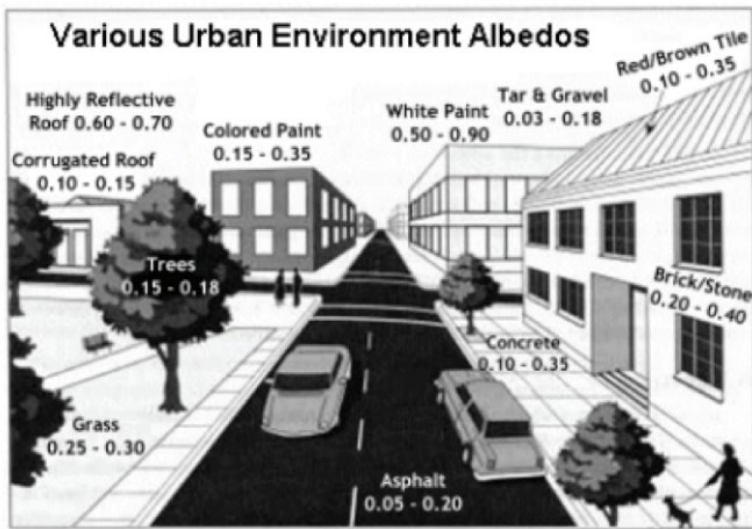




# Urban Albedos

## Raise the Roof on Urban Heat

The picture below shows the albedos of different materials found in urban environments. Albedo is the amount of incoming sunlight that is reflected by a surface. Surfaces with an albedo close to 1.0 reflect almost all energy. Surfaces with an albedo close to zero absorb most of the sunlight, holding heat in the city.



**DIRECTIONS** ► Take the average (mean) of the high and low albedo for each urban material in the picture above, then list them in order from highest to lowest. The first one has been done for you.

Urban Material	Albedo	highest albedo
White paint	$\frac{0.50 + 0.90}{2} = 0.70$	

Based on educational resources developed by teacher Emilio Macalalad as a part of the RETI Professional Development Program 2012.