

Technical
Training
Series



Siding: Cost & Comparison

There are several ways to calculate the cost of siding materials. The first step is to determine the type of material.

Vinyl

- Cost is often driven by thickness of the material, which ranges from .35mm to .55mm.

Aluminum

- Aluminum siding requires more labor to install than vinyl siding.
- Material thickness will impact the cost. Material varies between .019 to .025mm.
- Vinyl or plastic coated finishes add \$1.50 to \$3.00 per square foot, but is more durable than a field applied finish.



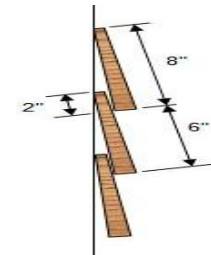
Synthetic Stucco (EIFS)

- Exterior fiberglass mesh can vary in weight. Heavier weight has a higher impact resistance.
- Drainage systems vary from a simple fiber mesh to vertical grooved channels in foam insulation.
- The most expensive component of EIFS is the flashing details around wall openings.

Drainage Mesh

Wood Siding

- Wood siding, or shakes, is affected by thickness and finished exposure, the distance from the bottom of one course to the bottom of the course above.
- A 4" exposure uses more material than an 8" exposure.



Lap Siding Exposure

Fiber Cement

- Changes in exposure will result in variance of labor and material.
- Fiber-cement siding costs 75% less than natural stone and 37% less than cedar.

In the table below, common siding materials are listed with typical installation costs and cost affecting variables. The table also shows how the different sidings compare in durability, appearance and maintenance.

Types	Cost (per sf)	Variables	Durability	Appearance	Maintenance
Vinyl	\$2 - \$3	Thickness	High	Fair	Low
Hardwood	\$3.5 - \$6.5	Thickness and exposure	High	Excellent	High
Fiber Cement	\$3 - \$8	Exposure	High	Excellent	Moderate
Plywood	\$2 - \$4	Species and thickness of plywood	High	Fair	High
Aluminum	\$3 - \$5	Thickness and paint finish	Good	Fair	Low
Brick & Stone Veneer	\$11 - \$15	Patterns, details around windows & doors	High	Excellent	Moderate
Natural Stone	\$15 - \$30	Size of individual pieces and patterns	High	Excellent	Low
Stucco	\$4 - \$9	Drainage system, weight if fiberglass mesh, details around windows & doors	Good	Excellent	Moderate
Wood Shingles & Shakes	\$5 - \$7.50	Thickness and exposure	High	Excellent	High
Slate Shingles	Starting at \$5	Thickness, exposure, and color	High	Good	Low
Clapboard	\$.75 - \$2.05	Thickness and exposure	High	Excellent	High