

"Re-Siding, for more than a face-lift, choose the right type", Mack Phillips, Popular Science Magazine, September 1977.

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How prefinished low-maintenance re-siding materials compare

	Vinyl	Aluminum	Steel	Hardboard	Clad particle board	Mineral fiber
Description	Formed extruded solid polyvinylchloride	Formed coated aluminum sheet	Formed coated steel sheet	Coated compressed wood fiber	Wood particleboard with bonded wood fiber overlay coated	Coated compressed Portland cement and mineral fiber
Approx. cost per 100 sq. ft. (material)*	\$60-80	\$60-90	\$70-90	\$35-80	\$40	\$30-50
Approx. cost per 100 sq. ft. (material labor)†	\$140-200	\$140-200	\$155-210	\$100-125	\$80-125	\$100-125
Type(s), finish coating	None — color is integral	Vinyl, acrylic	Vinyl, acrylic	Vinyl, polyester	Not specified	Polymer plastic
Textures (in various colors)	Smooth, wood grain, other textures	Smooth, wood grain, shake, and other textures	Wood grain, other textures	Smooth, wood grain, stucco	Smooth, textured, wood grain	Wood grain, shake
Material thickness	0.040"	0.019" or 0.040"	29 gauge (0.0135")	3/8"-7/16"	5/8"	5/16"
Relative weight	Very light	Very light	Light	Heavy	Heavy	Very heavy
Types, sheet sizes available	8" & double 4" clapboard x 12'-7", 8"x10' verticals	Similar to vinyl or roll-formed on job. 12"x24" & 12"x36" simulated shakes	Similar to vinyl or roll-formed on job	9-3 8"x16' & 12"x16' clapboard, 4'x8' & 4'x9' panels	4'x8' panels	14-5 8"x24" shakes, 8-3 4"x48" clapboard, 12"x24" clapboard, 13-5 8"x24" thatch, 12-1 16"x48" thatch
Usual warranty	20-30 yr.	20-40 yr.	20-30 yr.	5-15 yr.	5 yr., finish 20 yr., material	20 yr.
Fireproof	Self-extinguishing	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Approx. insulation value	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	R-45 (7 1/2" material)	R-76	R-4
Electrically conductive	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Termite-proof	Yes	Yes	Yes	Fairly	Fairly	Yes
Corrosion	No	Possibly	Possibly	No	No	No
Moisture resistance	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Quite good	Quite good	Excellent
Relative resistance to denting	Excellent	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Soffit systems available	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Trim & accessories available	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Repaint if necessary or desired	Not recommended	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Relative expansion/contraction	High	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low

* Prices will vary with shipping costs, local labor costs, job complexity, and trim materials required.

† Steel double clapboard is often double 5" (10" exposure, rather than vinyl's 8").