

Steel vs. Fiber Cement

	SS	Fiber Cement
Appearance Seams	●	○ - Caulked
Chalk and Fade Resistance	●	○ - 5-7 Years
Ease of Maintenance	●	○ - Repaint Every 5-7 Years
Environmentally Friendly	●	○ - Toxic (Silicosis)
Longevity	●	○ - Paint Peels
Realistic Appearance	●	○
Warp Resistance	●	○
Cold/Heat Resistance	●	○
Ability to Make Irregular Walls Appear Straight	●	●
Warranty Coverage	●	○ - Poor Fade Coverage
Moisture Resistance	●	○ - Cracks and Swells
Fire Resistance	●	●
Range of Pre-Finished Colors	●	●
Impact Resistance	●	○

● : Excellent ○ : Average ○ : Poor

Three Facts About Fiber Cement

Maintenance. Fiber cement siding does periodically require repainting. Although fiber cement siding warranties may cover 50 years, most suppliers only guarantee their baked-on finish for 15. In the long run, most homeowners will eventually need to repaint.

Safety. Installing fiber cement siding releases silica dust, which in sufficient amounts can cause a disabling and sometimes fatal lung disease called silicosis, as well as other diseases. Smoking may increase these risks.

Cost. The extra weight of fiber cement siding makes it more expensive to install - about 40% more expensive for labor alone. Also, because it will be necessary to repaint the siding within the lifetime of the siding, the cost of repainting the entire house should be considered as well.

