

# Steel vs. Vinyl Siding

	SS	Vinyl
Appearance Seams	●	○ - Not tight
Chalk and Fade Resistance	●	○ - Fades
Ease of Maintenance	●	◐ - Crack/Fade
Environmentally Friendly	●	○ - Petroleum
Longevity	●	◐ - Fades
Realistic Appearance	●	◐ - Plastic
Warp Resistance	●	○ - Melts
Cold/Heat Resistance	●	◐ - Low Reflectivity
Ability to Make Irregular Walls Appear Straight	●	○ - Waving
Warranty Coverage	●	◐ - Poor Fade Coverage
Moisture Resistance	●	● - Not Tight
Fire Resistance	●	○ - Melts
Range of Pre-Finished Colors	●	○ - Limited Dark Colors
Impact Resistance	●	○ - Cracks to a Weed Whacker
Movement	●	○ - 1/2" Causing Warping



● : Excellent   ◐ : Average   ○ : Poor

## Five Facts about Vinyl Siding

**A Surface Fix.** Often, vinyl siding is used as a short-term fix to cover existing bad siding. However, vinyl siding is not watertight. If the siding underneath is subject to constant wetting and inability to dry out fully, that can worsen existing problems.

**Fading.** Vinyl siding colors exhibit sun fading over time. If you attempt to paint over faded vinyl, eventually the result will be cracked and peeling paint.

**Flammable.** When enough heat or flame is applied to vinyl siding, the plastic will warp and melt. One fairly common issue is that vinyl siding can be melted or warped by a neighbor's window, a situation that is often specifically excluded from the manufacturer's warranty.

**Toxic.** Vinyl is a petroleum based product. Its primary component is PVC (polyvinyl chloride), a toxic chemical thought to cause cancer in humans. Many communities are moving away from vinyl siding due to its toxicity and the fact that it is not considered a green product.

**Unattractive.** Over time, plastic siding expands and contracts due to temperature fluctuations, causing the vinyl to crack and chip. Vinyl siding generally detracts from a home's curb appeal with the unnatural, plastic appearance of its overlapping seams and imitation wood grain.