



# Your Ultimate Re-side Guide

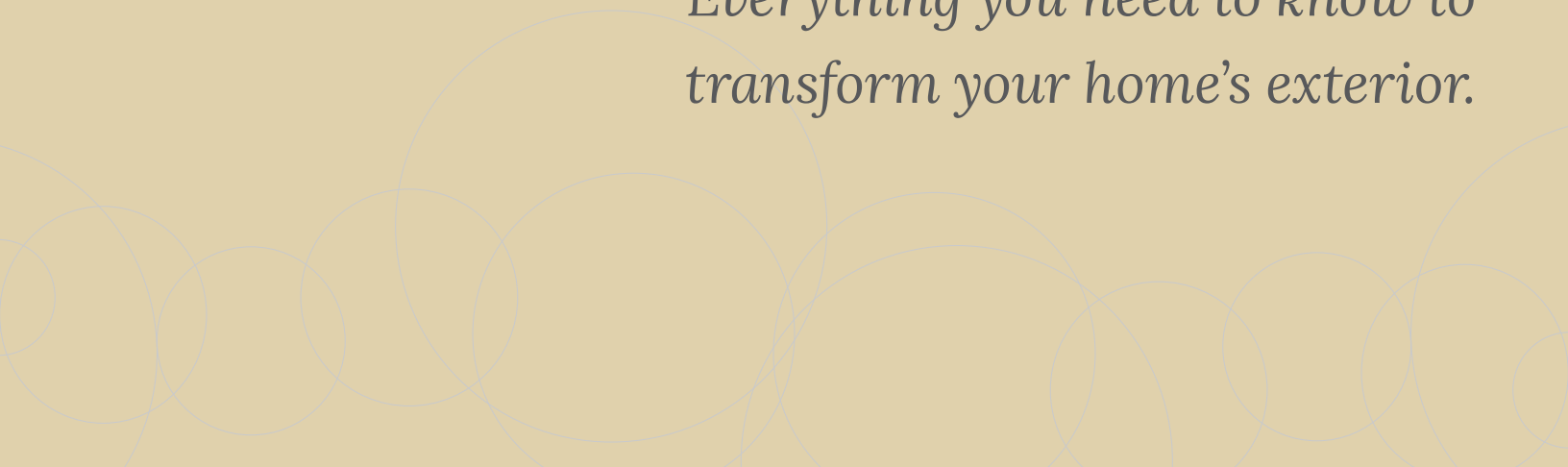
Timing

Options

Benefits

Contractor  
Guidelines

*Everything you need to know to  
transform your home's exterior.*





## *This could be the start of something beautiful.*

Deciding to re-side your home is not a small undertaking, and maybe you feel a little intimidated. You already realize your home would look refreshed and be better-protected. But what else do you need to know before you give the project a green light?

Take a few minutes to review the information in this guide. In it you'll find:

- How to determine if it's time to re-side
- Product options and performance
- Benefits of re-siding
- Guidelines about selecting a contractor
- Basics about what to expect during the project

Hopefully, this will give you the confidence to make the best choice for your home.

# Begin with an honest evaluation.

Look at your home from the curb to get an overall sense. Then, inspect it up close, looking at every side of the house from top to bottom.

What to look for:

- ☐ **Sagging**
- ☐ **Cracking**
- ☐ **Blistering**
- ☐ **Buckling/dents**
- ☐ **Fading**
- ☐ **Missing pieces**
- ☐ **Evidence of insect damage/infestation**
- ☐ **Rot**
- ☐ **Water stains**

The presence of two or more of the above would suggest it's time to re-side.

## Consider your current maintenance needs.

As siding wears out, the maintenance cycle shortens. The effort and **cost of maintaining tired siding can exceed that of installing new siding**. Also, the tendency to skip maintenance and just “let it go” can lead to considerable damage to the integrity of the underlying wood structure. So, when maintenance (or lack of it) starts to be a factor, it's another sign that re-siding is advisable.



*Compare your house to others around it.*

Be honest. Is your home the one that stands out—and not for its beauty? Does it look tired and dated? If so, it's probably time to re-side!



# Know your siding options.

Let's say the results of your siding evaluation have pushed you closer to a decision. If so, you'll want to determine the right siding material for your style of home. Here's how:



## Compare

your house to similar homes in the neighborhood.



## Browse

magazines that feature your home's architectural style.



## Consider

your climate. Is it usually hot? Cold? A combination of both?



## Consult

your insurance agent. Some offer discounts on masonry and fiber cement because both are durable and non-combustible.

By doing a little research, you'll know which of the following five materials, used most on American homes, is right for yours:



## Consider product performance.

There are many things to look for when deciding on siding. Here's an easy way to compare:

	Cedar	Wood-based	Vinyl	Masonry	Fiber cement
Flame Resistance	Low	Low	Low	High	High
Moisture Resistance	Low	Low	Medium	High	High
Termite & Pest Protection	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
Climate Resistance	Low	Low	Low	High	High
Result	★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★★★	★★★★★★



# Prepare for a positive change.

What should you expect with a well-done re-siding project?

Here are some of the benefits:

## **Curb Appeal.**

You will add character and architectural interest with the right siding choice. For instance, upgrading from vinyl to thicker, more substantial James Hardie® siding creates an upscale look.

## **Maintenance.**

Vinyl requires regular cleaning and washing. Wood needs re-painting every few years. On the other hand, fiber cement siding is lower maintenance and could potentially save you a lot in repairs later.

## **Energy Savings.**

New siding materials, weather/moisture barriers and climate-appropriate insulation may offer energy savings and lower your utility bills.

## **Environmental Impact.**

Today's siding products are greener than ever. The U.S. Green Building Council recognizes fiber cement siding, in particular, for its durability and sustainability.



## **Did you know?**

Re-siding is a good investment! According to the [“Cost vs. Value Report,” conducted by Remodeling magazine](#), re-siding with fiber cement siding offers the highest return on investment for home remodeling projects.



# Find a contractor you can trust.

There are several ways to ensure the contractor who does your re-siding will deliver a quality installation on time and on budget. Here are a few tips:

- ☐ Ask your neighbors, friends and co-workers for referrals.
- ☐ Be certain the contractor(s) you are considering are licensed and insured.
- ☐ Inquire about contractors with your local Consumer Affairs Office or Better Business Bureau.
- ☐ Make sure your contractor is a member of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry [nari.org](http://nari.org).
- ☐ Look for a contractor who specializes in siding, preferably with certification.
- ☐ Contact and meet with at least three insured/licensed contractors to get written estimates.
- ☐ Prepare a complete description of the project and your expectations prior to the meeting.
- ☐ Share the same information with each contractor.
- ☐ Make sure that each proposal includes everything you requested and the price is based on the complete project.



# Understand the re-siding process.

When you know what to expect, it gives you confidence and peace of mind. Your contractor will also appreciate that you are well-informed, and the whole project will go a lot more smoothly.

## Step One

Don't just cover an existing problem! The way to do it right is to remove the old siding entirely.

## Step Two

Have your home inspected for moisture damage, mold, termites or rot. If it's found, repair and/or treat to avoid future structural problems.

## Step Three

Your contractor should apply a weather-resistant barrier, such as HardieWrap® weather barrier. In fact, most building codes now require it.

## Step Four

Be sure your new siding is installed according to the manufacturers' guidelines – such as the James Hardie Best Practices Installation Guide.

BEFORE



AFTER





## Make the best choice.

James Hardie pioneered fiber cement technology in the 1980s and is the world leader today.

Our durable and versatile products are currently protecting over 5.5 million homes across the U.S. and are backed by our strongest warranties yet:



30-year non-prorated transferable, limited warranty

- **HardiePlank® Lap Siding**
- **HardieShingle® Siding**
- **HardiePanel® Vertical Siding**
- **HardieSoffit® Panels**
- **Artisan® Lap Siding**

15-year limited warranty

- **HardieTrim® Boards**
- **ColorPlus® Technology**
- **Artisan® Accent Trim**

*Ready to take the first step toward a beautiful home transformation?*

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or call 1-866-884-2595.



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