

SIDING ULTIMATE BUYER'S GUIDE

INCLUDING...

- **WHY HARDIE?**
- **INSTALLATION**
- **COST**
- **WARRANTY**
- **STYLES**
- **...AND MORE!**

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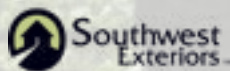


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WHY *TOP 3* **HARDIE?**

James Hardie is a leading manufacturer of fiber cement products and has gained the title of the best siding replacement solution in North America.

If you are a long-term homeowner looking to invest in new, long-lasting siding, Hardie is the best option for you. If you are looking to freshen up your home's siding before putting it on the market, a less expensive siding type may be better for you.

However, It is important to acknowledge that Hardie siding may not be the best solution for every homeowner. While it is on the higher end of the cost to replace your siding, many contractors offer different payment options to make it affordable. **If you are considering Hardie for your siding replacement, this section will help you understand the top three benefits of Hardie siding.**

1. IT'S FIBER CEMENTITIOUS

The material that Hardie siding is made of is the greatest benefit. It is made of Portland cement, sand, water, and cellulose fibers.

It is also made with performance additives that make it non-combustible, resistant to water damage and rot, and able to withstand any type of climate.

For San Antonio homes, having a siding that can stand against the brutal summers and frequent cold snaps is essential.

Most other siding materials come with a number of issues. Vinyl expands and contracts in the heat and cold, causing it to crack, bend, and bow. Wood and masonite siding is susceptible to rot. Stucco can also crack and chip over time.

Hardie fiber cement siding does not have any of these problems. It does not dry out or deteriorate in the sun, and it is incredibly durable.

This is why Hardie siding is a long-term solution for a siding replacement, meant to last for 40-50 years.

2. IT'S PRACTICALLY MAINTENANCE-FREE

Because of the durability of fiber cement siding, it requires very little maintenance. You will not have to worry about repairing rot or replacing boards that have cracked.

Hardie has designed their siding to be unappealing to woodpeckers, termites, and other pests. The fiber cement does not create an ideal home, causing them to turn away.

The best maintenance task you can take to your Hardie siding is to power wash it once a year or every couple of years. This will get rid of any dirt and grime buildup on the siding, which will keep it looking fresh and help maintain the paint.

Paint on Hardie siding lasts longer than other types of siding. However, when excess dirt is left on the siding for years, it will start to infuse into the paint layer. This makes it more difficult to repaint later, which can cost you more money in the long run.

3. ITS INSTALLATION PROCESSES SECURES ITS LONGEVITY

James Hardie has created numerous best practices guides for certified Hardie installers to follow for siding replacements.

These best practices set a high standard for contractors that install Hardie products to ensure you receive the highest-quality siding replacement. Some contractors will have a certified Hardie inspector look at your siding replacement to ensure it was done under the best practices.

The installation of any siding is one of the most important aspects of a siding project. Even though Hardie is the best fiber cement siding manufacturer, it will not last as long or protect your home as it should.

This is why it is important to choose the right contractor that will install your siding under Hardie's best practices in order to get the most out of your project.

HOW MUCH DOES A HARDIE SIDING PROJECT COST?

A Hardie siding replacement in 2021 can cost about \$2,000-3,000 for one square of area. A square is a 10 ft. x 10 ft. area. This cost is estimated for a one story, traditional lap project including HardieWrap, oriented-strand board substrate, weather barrier, trim, removing existing siding, caulking, and painting.

There are five major factors that influence the cost of a Hardie siding project: square footage, style and board profile, degree of difficulty of the area, condition of the existing siding and wall, and recommended additions.

SQUARE FOOTAGE

With most home remodeling projects, the size of the project is going to be your biggest contributor to the cost.

However, with siding, you need to factor in how many corners there are to your siding.



Corners refer to where there are gables and rakes around your siding.

A gable is a part of your roof that sticks out from the siding.

The highlighted area is a gable. It looks like it is attached to the original frame of the house. This adds extra square footage to your siding project as opposed to a home that was flat all around.

A rake is a part of the siding that intersects with the roofing.



The highlighted area is a rake. You can see how the right side of the highlighted area intersects the roofing on the bottom. This requires more panels and cuts to the panels, creating a higher waste factor and ultimately raising the cost of the project.

Many homes are not built like cardboard boxes.

You can see in the design of these homes there are many corners and angled sides that require extra steps to be taken to replace the siding that will add to your cost.

The reason it costs more when your home has more gables and rake is that it increases the waste factor of the project.

A house built like a box requires very little cutting and trimming of the siding to fit the home. With gables and rake, the edges are starting or ending at an angle. This means that each piece of siding must be cut to the exact angle to fit the side.

Trimming all of those pieces of siding creates a higher waste with what is cut off.

The same goes for the design of your home. If your siding goes up into a triangle shape, it is going to cost you more because more materials are needed to be trimmed down to fit, raising the cost and the waste factor.

To sum all of that information up, the larger the square footage of your desired siding area and the more complex the design of your home are the greatest factors that will influence the cost of your project.

STYLE AND BOARD PROFILE

There are many different styles and board profiles available with Hardie siding. Different styles and sizes of boards affect the cost of the overall project.

Horizontal siding is the least expensive compared to vertical and shingle siding. Vertical siding is the most expensive. This is because it has the highest waste factor.

Similarly, with skinnier horizontal or vertical boards, it is more expensive due to the cost of labor.

Select cedarmill is the least expensive board profile from Hardie and Colonial smooth is the most expensive per square foot.



Here there are two different board profiles: horizontal lap and scalloped shingle.

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY OF THE AREA

While the square footage of the area is the greatest factor to the overall cost of your project, the degree of difficulty of the area will affect it as well.



The reason the degree of difficulty of the area affects the cost is because of the cost of labor. Areas where it is more difficult to reach, such as multiple stories or small corners, require more labor, adding time and money to your project.

The siding replaced on this house is on a second story, increasing the degree of difficulty of the area.

Depending on the degree of difficulty of your area, it can add anywhere from 10-15% to the total cost of your project.

CONDITION OF THE EXISTING SIDING/WALL

The condition of your existing siding and substrate, or what is underneath the siding, will affect the cost of your project as well.

Compare it to your health and well-being. If you take care of yourself continuously throughout your life, you will likely run into fewer major health problems down the road.

The same goes for your siding. If you take care of it and do not neglect it, it will stay in much better shape for longer.

If the siding or wall is extremely deteriorated or damaged, it can cost you \$2,000-\$8,000 or more depending on the extent of damage on top of the total cost of the project for labor and repair.



Here there is rot on the trim surrounding the soffit and fascia. This will increase the cost of your project for the cost to repair and replace the rotted boards.

On the flip side, if your siding is in great condition it can be used as substrate for your new siding. This will reduce the cost significantly.

All this to say that the better condition your siding and substrate are in, the less a replacement will cost you.

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONS

Additions to your project are not necessarily customizations, but they are optional (but recommended) to your project.

On top of the siding, you can also choose to have your soffit and fascia covered with the same siding.

Soffit is the underneath area between the edge of the roof and the wall.

Fascia is the front-facing trim of the roofing.



It is recommended in most cases to get your fascia included with your siding project to add extra protection to the exterior against the climate, water, and deterioration to ultimately last you longer. The soffit, if indicated, should also be considered to provide the same benefits.

*The orange highlight represents the soffit.
The yellow highlight represents the fascia.*

You can also have your garage frame and the underside of window boxes covered with siding for the same level of extra protection.

Painting and touching up any exterior areas, like your garage door or patio ceiling, is also recommended when having your siding replaced. It is best to get all exterior components done and repaired or replaced at once so you do not have to worry about it long term.

While none of these additions are required to have your siding replaced, it is recommended to add extra protection to your siding and your home.

Now you have a better understanding of what all goes into the overall cost of a Hardie siding project.

This is important to understand for you to be able to choose the right contractor and type of siding for your project and allows you to feel more comfortable in making this investment.

BOARD PROFILES AND STYLES

HARDIE OFFERS MANY DIFFERENT SIDING, TRIM, AND SOFFIT STYLES TO FIT ANY AESTHETIC, WHETHER YOU'RE MORE TRADITIONAL AND CLASSIC OR MODERN AND TRENDY.

When getting a Hardie siding replacement, there are three different styles of boards you can choose from: horizontal, vertical, and shingle. Within these styles, there are different profiles for you to choose from as well. **Here we will detail the different board styles and profiles as well as the soffit and trim options.**

Soffit and trim are not required when getting your siding replaced, however, they are recommended. The Aspyre collection is a separate collection by Hardie that offers a non-traditional style of siding and has its own types of trim and soffit.

HARDIEPLANK LAP SIDING

Lap siding, also commonly referred to as horizontal siding, is the most popular style of siding. It refers to the direction the siding boards are laid against the exterior, so the boards are parallel to the horizon. Select cedarmill mimics the look of wood grain on the fiber cement panels. The smooth finish is sleek and classic. **There are three different lap siding board profiles available in both select cedarmill and smooth. For HardiePlank, there are two types of finishes available: select cedarmill and smooth.**

TRADITIONAL LAP

Traditional lap siding is laid horizontally, with the bottom of each board slightly overlapping the board below it. This is the most common type of horizontal siding.

BEADED SEAM

Beaded siding consists of horizontal boards with a small, bead-like strip running between each board. Beaded cedarmill is inspired by coastal communities, while beaded smooth gives your home a modern, contemporary look.

CUSTOM COLONIAL

Custom Colonial™ siding is Hardies Dutch lap style, where the larger horizontal boards are separated by skinny, inverted segments of the siding. Available as both smooth and wood-like finish, Colonial Roughsawn and Colonial Smooth reflect that traditional, historical look.

HARDIEPANEL VERTICAL SIDING

Vertical siding gives your home a creative edge while remaining classic. Board and batten is one of the only vertical siding styles where large panel boards are laid vertically with smaller trim batten boards laid on the seams. Hardie carries two styles of vertical siding: stucco and sierra 8.

STUCCO

Hardie provides the comforting, classic look of stucco with the benefits of fiber cement. This look provides you with an intricate, unique texture different from wood grain.

SIERRA 8

This vertical style is similar to Custom Colonial, with smaller dividends between the boards. Sierra 8 is available as smooth or select cedarmill and elongates your home, providing dimension without complication.

HARDIESHINGLE SIDING

Shingle siding is made of smaller siding boards of either uniform or varying sizes laid in many different ways. Also known as shake siding, this style gives your home a Cape Cod look and is available with a cedar mill finish. There are three styles of HardieShingle siding: straight edge panel, staggered edge panel, and scalloped.

STRAIGHT EDGE PANEL

This shingle style is made up of small shingle boards cut at varying widths but the same length to give a sharp edge to each horizontal line. This style provides a classic yet rustic look for your home.

STAGGERED EDGE PANEL

This style is laid following no horizontal line, creating a staggered, beautifully chaotic look great for a ranch home or cottage look.

SCALLOPED

This style is made of small shingle boards with half-rounded edges, creating a fish-scale look. This classic style gives your home a historical and coastal aesthetic.

ASPYRE COLLECTION

This new collection of styles offered by Hardie gives an extremely modern and sleek look. It consists of two subcollections: Artisan and Reveal. Each can cost 40-60% more than cedarmill select siding.

ARTISAN Hardie describes this collection to have a precise fit and finish to provide streamlined styling. Each style is 0.625 in. thick and weighs 4.55 lbs. per square foot and comes primed for paint.

V-Groove siding

This style is similar to a Dutch lap style where the main boards are divided by small v-grooves. It gives your siding dimension without being over the top.

Shiplap siding

This style provides a more straight-edge look than the v-groove and is a traditional and classic look.

Square channel siding

This style is similar to shiplap, with wider channels between the main panel boards. It gives your home a more modern look than shiplap yet still reflects a traditional style.

Bevel channel siding

This style is about the same as the square channel siding, but the channels have a small bevel, or angled slope, to emphasize those panels. If you're looking to add a little more dimension to your siding, this style is for you.

REVEAL PANEL SYSTEM This collection of siding is made up of rectangular and square panels rather than longer boards. The panels are 0.438 in. thick and weigh 3.1 lbs. per square foot. They have two trim options to fill the space between the panels and two different nail options.

You can choose between countersunk or exposed fastener nails. Countersunk fasteners are concealed, so they will not be visible on the trim.

Recess Trim

This trim style is hidden between panels, filling the majority of the space. It creates a smooth connection between panels while also accentuating the lines.

Surround Trim

This is an exposed trim that gives a more industrial look to your siding. It is a u-shaped trim that fits between the grooves of the panels, giving it a strong definition between panels.

Both of these collections from Hardie's Aspyre Collection are perfect if you are looking for the most modern styles for your home. They are also made of fiber cement like all other Hardie siding styles.

HARDIESOFFIT BOARDS

Soffit is the underneath area that stretches between the top of the siding to the roofing's edge. It is an integral part of a siding replacement to protect your home and upgrade its look. **There are seven different styles of HardieSoffit panels.**

Non-vented

Non-vented cedarmill is the most popular type of soffit with a texture to mimic wood but resist the issues that come with wood soffit like rotting and warping. Non-vented soffit panels are also offered in smooth to compliment any style of siding.

Vented

Pair your smooth or cedarmill siding with perfectly matching vented soffit panels with small holes for ventilation to meet coding regulations. Vented soffit panels are essential to help air circulate through and out of the attic and can also help to protect against mold.

VentedPlus

This type of soffit has ventilation holes that are shaped like dashes to provide more airflow than any other engineered wood or fiber cement vented soffit. Offered in cedarmill or smooth, this type of soffit is perfect for homes built on close lot lines with restrictions on vented soffit use.

Beaded Porch Panel

This style mimics the same look as beaded horizontal siding and is a traditional look. These panels come only in smooth and are made for porch ceilings, and ventilation is not required on porch ceilings.



HARDIETRIM BOARDS

Trim is one of the finishing touches on your new siding. HardieTrim can border not only your trim but the fascia, doors, windows, and columns. **There are three different trim boards, each available in smooth and rustic: 4/4, 5/4, and batten boards.**

Each of these collections is a part of the James Hardie Statement Collection, available in a range of classic, neutral colors that are most popular. However, there are hundreds of colors for you to choose from.

4/4

These boards are 3/4 in. thick and available in either smooth or rustic. Rustic has a wood-like finish to fit that traditional aesthetic.

5/4

These boards are 1 in. thick and also available in smooth or rustic.

Batten boards

These boards go hand in hand with HardiePanel vertical siding to create the board and batten style where the batten boards are placed between each vertical board. They are available in Rustic Grain and smooth and are 3/4 in. thick.



HARDIE WARRANTIES

Hardie offers a 30-year limited product warranty on all lap, vertical panel, shingle, and Artisan siding. This limited warranty extends only to:

- (i) the first retail purchaser of the product;
- (ii) the first owner of the structure to which the product is applied and
- (iii) the first transferee.

HardieWrap weather barrier, flashing, flex flashing, and seam tape have a 10-year limited warranty.

All HardieTrim have a 15-year limited warranty, and all HardieSoffit have a 30-year limited warranty.

If the product is defective in material or workmanship, Hardie will either refund or replace the defective portion of the product or reimburse you for up to twice the original retail price.

The product must be installed according to Hardie's printed installation requirements and must comply with all building codes adopted by federal, state or local governments or government agencies applicable to the installation.

THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER DAMAGE OR DEFECTS RESULTING FROM OR IN ANY WAY ATTRIBUTABLE TO:

1. The improper storage, shipping, handling or installation of the product, including, without limitation, failure of the product to be installed in strict compliance with the Conditions of Limited Warranty
2. Further processing, modification or alteration of the product after shipping from Hardie
3. Neglect, abuse, or misuse
4. Repair or alteration
5. Settlement or structural movement and/or movement of materials to which the product is attached
6. Damage from incorrect design of the structure
7. Damage resulting from water infiltration
8. Exceeding the maximum designed wind loads
9. Acts of God including but not limited to, tornados, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, severe weather or other natural phenomena, (including, but not limited to, unusual climate conditions)
10. Efflorescence, peeling or performance of any third party paints, stains and/or coatings
11. Growth of mold, mildew, fungi, bacteria, or any organism on any surface of the product (whether on the exposed or unexposed surfaces)
12. Lack of proper maintenance
13. Any cause other than material or manufacturing defects attributable to Hardie.



WHAT MAKES A HIGH-QUALITY HARDIE INSTALLATION?

When getting your new Hardie siding, the installation is the most important factor to its quality and longevity. If Hardie siding is not installed properly, the warranty is void.

Knowing the best practices for installing Hardie siding is important to avoid a faulty contractor. You should ask any potential contractor what their installation process is and ask about Hardie's Best Practices to ensure they are a quality contractor.

1. Removing existing siding

When removing the existing siding, there is a lot of debris that can fall during the process. **The crew should place a tarp or protective covering down along the siding to catch all debris for a thorough cleanup.**

The removed siding should be taken immediately to the dumpster when finished. During the removal process, the best installers will take care of your home and ensure a clean workspace.

2. Placing the substrate

For a siding replacement, the substrate is a thinner layer of siding that goes down underneath the actual siding. This adds a layer of protection for your home and provides more stability for the actual siding.

A popular material for the substrate is oriented-strand boarding or OSB. It is made of wood chips patterned diagonally and connected by an adhesive, and it is similar to plywood. **The substrate is installed from the bottom up and in an alternating staggered manner instead of straight lines across.**

After the substrate is installed, a weather barrier should be stapled on top of it. Between the substrate and weather barrier, there are going to be open seams that need to be covered. **A joint tape is used to connect the pieces where there is a seam between pieces of substrate and weather barrier or around windows and doors.**

If a contractor does not use substrate or a weather barrier, this is a red flag.

3. Installing the trim and flashing

The trim is placed around windows, doors, and the edges of the siding to give it a finished look. The flashing is placed on the roofing edges and works to direct water away from the roofing.

The trim and flashing are caulked and sealed to lock in the joint tape and provide another type of weather barrier around open seams. They should both be installed before the actual siding.

The gaps will then need to be filled with caulk which leaves more room for water to get in - installing the trim and flashing before the siding gives it a tighter fit.

The trim should be nailed with a trim nailer using finishing nails as opposed to coil nails. The finishing nails are smaller than coil nails, and when nailed in, the nail's head is not visible. The coil nails are used to install the siding.

After the trim above all doors and windows has been installed, a type of flashing called Z- flashing is installed

above the door and window frames. **L-flashing is also installed after the substrate and before the weather barrier.** This flashing borders the bottom of the substrate and the foundation to keep insects and water away.

If neither Z nor L-flashing is installed, there is a higher chance of water seeping in around the trim, which can cause rot and preventable damage.

4. Installing the siding

When installing siding panels, the best practice is to start from the bottom up with horizontal siding. The panel is nailed at the top with coil nails, and the panel above will hang slightly over to cover the nails below.

As the siding is installed, outdoor outlets and water spouts must be protected and sealed. A plastic bezel, or framing, is placed around the water spouts and electrical outlets connecting to the wall to create a waterproof seal.

The areas are then caulked and sealed around on top of the weather barrier. **This makes it easier to fit the siding around the outlets and water spouts and sealing around them while also providing a clean and finished look.**

5. Caulk and paint

When it comes to caulking, the product and application are key to the quality of the installation. **If a caulk with a lifespan of fewer than 50 years is used, it is not a good caulk.**

The purpose of the caulk is to seal the edges and joints so water and insects cannot make their way into the siding. If the caulk is not applied properly, it will not do its job in sealing the siding.

The nail heads will need to be spackled as well for a quality installation and clean finish. Spackle is a plaster-based product.

Before painting even goes down, the entire siding area should be power washed and cleaned off. If it is not cleaned, the paint will trap dirt and residue underneath, and the coats will not go on evenly.

Using a sprayer that projects the primer evenly and allows you to build up the thickness of the primer is quality practice. While using a brush roller is not incorrect, it picks up the dispersed product and can make the job appear patchy.

If the paint is not applied correctly or a low-quality paint is used, it will fade, chip, and crack easily.

After caulking and painting, your siding is complete.

HARDIE INSTALLATION BEST PRACTICES

Hardie has created multiple “Best Practices” guides for installing their siding, trim, soffit, and weather barriers. These are extensive guides with detailed instructions for each step of the installation process and also include things like how to properly store the products, repairing Hardie wrap, and painting dos and don’ts.

Once your Hardie siding project is complete, a certified inspector will come out to your home and ensure the project was completed under the best practices. Then, you will receive a Hardie certificate stating the project was done under the best practices and ensuring the warranty.

Here we will outline some of the most important best practices for each major part of a full Hardie siding installation.

HardiePlank® Lap Siding

- HardiePlank® lap siding can be installed over braced wood or steel studs spaced a maximum of 24" o.c. or directly to minimum 7/16" thick OSB sheathing. Irregularities in framing and sheathing can mirror through the finished application.
- HardiePlank lap siding can also be installed over foam insulation/sheathing up to 1" thick. When using foam insulation/sheathing, avoid over-driving nails (fasteners), which can result in dimpling of the siding due to the compressible nature of the foam insulation/sheathing. Extra caution is necessary if power-driven nails (fasteners) are used for attaching siding over foam insulation/sheathing. James Hardie will assume no responsibility for water infiltration. James Hardie does manufacture HardieWrap™ Weather Barrier, a non-woven non-perforated housewrap, which complies with building code requirements.
- Do not use HardiePlank lap siding in Fascia or Trim applications.
- Do not install James Hardie products, such that they may remain in contact with standing water.
- HardiePlank lap siding may be installed on flat vertical wall applications only.
- DO NOT use stain on James Hardie® products.

HardiePanel® (Vertical) Siding

- HardiePanel® vertical siding can be installed over braced wood or steel studs spaced a maximum of 24" o.c. See general fastening requirements. Irregularities in framing and sheathing can mirror through the finished application.
- A water-resistive barrier is required in accordance with local building code requirements. The water-resistive barrier must be appropriately installed with penetration and junction flashing in accordance with local building code requirements. James Hardie will assume no responsibility for water infiltration. James
- Do not install James Hardie products, such that they may remain in contact with standing water.
- HardiePanel vertical siding may be installed on vertical wall applications only.
- DO NOT use HardiePanel vertical siding in Fascia or Trim applications.
- DO NOT use stain, oil/alkyd base paint, or powder coating on James Hardie® Products.

HardieShingle® Siding

- HardieShingle® siding can be installed over braced wood or steel studs spaced a maximum of 24" o.c. or directly to minimum 7/16" thick sheathing. See general fastening requirements.
- A water-resistive barrier is required in accordance with local building code requirements. The water-resistive barrier must be appropriately installed with penetration and junction flashing in accordance with local building code requirements.
- Do not install James Hardie products, such that they may remain in contact with standing water.
- HardieShingle siding may be installed on vertical wall applications only.
- DO NOT use stain, oil/alkyd base paint, or powder coating on James Hardie® Products.

HardieSoffit®

- HardieSoffit® panels may be installed over either steel or wood framing complying with the local building code. See general fastener requirements. Install soffits to nominal 2 x 4 framing members spaced a maximum of 24 inches on center.
- Install water barriers and air barriers as required by local building codes. James Hardie will assume no responsibility for moisture infiltration.
- DO NOT use stain, oil/alkyd base paint, or powder coating on James Hardie® Products.
- Alternatively vents can be installed into non-vented soffit.

HardieTrim®

- Wood or steel must be provided for attaching HardieTrim® boards.
- DO NOT install HardieTrim boards, such that they may remain in contact with standing water.
- DO NOT use stain, oil/alkyd base paint, or powder coating on James Hardie Products.
- Caulk, paint or prime all field cut edges. James Hardie touch-up kits are required to touch-up ColorPlus products.

[**VIEW FULL BEST PRACTICE INSTALLATION GUIDES HERE.**](#)

5 QUALITIES TO LOOK FOR IN A HARDIE SIDING CONTRACTOR

Because the cost of Hardie siding is on the high end, you want to make sure you choose a contractor that will give you the best outcome that you deserve.

Although Hardie is one of the best solutions for a siding replacement, it must be installed correctly by a quality contractor. Otherwise, it will not provide you with the benefits as it should.

1. DOCUMENTED HISTORY OF THE CONTRACTOR'S HARDIE SIDING PROJECTS

When you schedule an appointment with a contractor, part of the consultation should be a presentation of their work. Researching the contractor and reading real client reviews is another important aspect to trust them. If it is difficult to find information and reviews on the contractor or most reviews are subpar, this is a red flag.

Seeing the contractor's previous Hardie projects and learning about their installation processes are two of the most important things to know if they are a quality Hardie installer.

2. KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT MAKES A HIGH-QUALITY HARDIE SIDING REPLACEMENT

The contractor should detail all the elements included in the siding replacement. This includes the substrate, flashing elements, trim, soffit, fascia, and products and tools used for the installation. Knowing what type of nails, caulk, and paint is important to identify a high-quality Hardie project.

A part of the installation is also preparation and what the contractor will do to assure the project was completed correctly.

If a contractor does not talk about the details of their installation processes and the products and materials they use, ask. For Hardie siding replacements, if the installation is not done properly, the warranty is void. This is why knowing the contractor's installation practices is so important.

3. PRESENTATION OF KNOWLEDGE OF ALL HARDIE PRODUCTS OFFERED

Any contractor that offers Hardie products should have extensive knowledge of the company and products that they offer. Not only should the contractor know about all Hardie products, but have the willingness to share the information with you. This is so important that a great contractor will have the mindset of making your dream project come true.

If a contractor does not want to share all product information with you, they are more than likely only wanting to make the highest profit off of you. Trusting your contractor and feeling confident they have your best interest is most important.

4. IF THEY MENTION HARDIE'S BEST PRACTICES

A high-quality contractor that carries Hardie products will work under these best practices. This ensures the highest quality siding project. They should be able to detail the best practices and answer any questions you may ask about them. If the contractor does not mention Hardie's best practices, ask so that you can know they know about them.

Furthermore, if they do not mention the best practices, why wouldn't they? A great contractor working under the Hardie best practices will let you know they do as part of their installation process. This helps you to trust the contractor and know they will provide you with a high-quality siding replacement.

5. INFORMING ON THEIR WARRANTY AND HARDIE'S

The final factor that defines a high-quality Hardie contractor is what kind of warranty they offer and extended knowledge of Hardie's warranties.

Hardie offers a 30-year warranty for siding boards and a 15-year warranty for trim boards. They will refund or replace any damaged parts for this period of time. The warranty a contractor offers is important as well. It is a telling sign of how long they will have your back if something goes wrong with your siding project.

If a contractor does not mention Hardie's warranty or their warranty, ask.

When considering any contractor for your Hardie siding project, ask yourself these three questions:

1. WHAT COMPANY VALUES ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU?

If you are looking for a one-and-done type contractor that will complete the project and get out of your hair, [Southwest Exteriors is not right for you.](#)

Not only is it a part of our core company values to build a lifelong relationship with our clients, but it is included in our lifetime warranty as well. We cover the cost of installation, labor, and materials if anything goes wrong with your product from us for as long as you live in your home. If having an ensured relationship with your contractor after the project is finished is important to you, then we might be what you're looking for.

2. WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR YOUR PROJECT?

If your goal is to replace your siding with the quickest and least expensive option, and you are not concerned about the longevity of the product, then we may not be right for you.

Part of our Four C's is craftsmanship. The craftsmanship that goes into the installation is extremely important for a proper installation and to ensure you do not run into any problems in the future. Because of this, we need to take our time. Rushing through an installation can only result in mistakes and missed steps in the process.

It comes down to whether you are looking for a short-term solution to a project or a long-term investment. If a thought-out, quality project from the initial inspection to after the installation is what you are wanting, then Southwest Exteriors may be right for you.

3. WHAT IS YOUR BUDGET FOR YOUR PROJECT?

If you are looking for the least expensive option for your project we are not the right contractor for you.

We are not the cheapest contractor out there, and Hardie siding is not the least expensive type siding. When considering the cost of a siding project, it is extremely important to look at all that goes into the cost. A siding replacement advertised for only \$4,999 might be true, but more often than not, fees are going to be stacked on top of that for installation, labor, and warranty.

Although Southwest Exteriors is on the higher end for home remodeling services, what you are paying for is incomparable to other companies. When you have a consultation with us, we provide you with the exact penny price it is going to cost for your project, and that includes the product, labor, installation, and a lifetime warranty.

If price range is the most important factor to you to choose the right contractor for your project, make sure you are looking into what all is included in the price. Like most products and services, what you get is what you pay for in a home remodeling project. The least expensive option is never going to be the highest quality one, and the price of the project is just one piece of the puzzle.

At Southwest Exteriors, we have multiple payment options and discounts to fit whatever plan you need. We want you to be comfortable and confident in choosing us and don't want the cost to get in the way of a quality job done.

If you are looking to pay a little more to get the most out of your home improvement project, then Southwest Exteriors may be for you. What you pay for with us is professional service, installation, and project management from the moment you contact us to after the project is complete.



IS THE RIGHT CONTRACTOR FOR YOUR HARDIE SIDING PROJECT?

ABOUT SOUTHWEST EXTERIORS

When looking to pay a professional contractor for your Hardie siding project, you want to know that you're going to get your money's worth and be satisfied with the end result. Feeling confident in the contractor you choose is important.

Southwest Exteriors has been a locally established contractor for over 30 years. What sets us apart from our competitors is our purpose. We are a purpose-driven company that values our relationship with you over a sale. **While we strive to serve anyone in need, Southwest Exteriors might not be the company you are looking for for your project.**

Our mission statement is to transform lives by transforming homes for the glory of God. When you do your project with us, we are with you for life. We pride ourselves on the service after the sale.

If something goes wrong or you are not satisfied with any part of the process, we will

do anything and everything we can to make it right no matter if you had your project done last month or last decade.

We value our relationship with you over the transaction of the sale. While of course as a business, financial profit is necessary to continue to grow and serve our clients. However, financial profit is not our number one goal. This is what sets us apart from our competitors.

We work to build trust with our clients through educating them on all products, services, and about us. Whether you choose us for your project or not, we want you to make the best decision for you and want to help you with that decision.

Everything we do we filter through what we call the Four C's: compassion, communication, cleanliness, and craftsmanship. These are most important to us.



ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR NEW HARDIE SIDING?

Contact Southwest
Exteriors by filling out the
form on our website to
schedule a free, in-home
consultation with a design
consultant.

Virtual consultations are
available for your comfort
and safety.



Southwest
Exteriors™