



Hints For The Home

Re-siding 101: What To Consider, Start To Finish

(NAPSA)—Deciding to re-side your home isn't a small undertaking but it doesn't have to be intimidating. You need a keen eye, some research and a game plan. Here are hints that can help:

Evaluating Your Home

Start by inspecting your current siding both from the curb and up close. Look for:

- Sagging
- Cracking
- Blistering
- Buckling or dents
- Fading
- Missing pieces
- Insect damage or infestation
- Rot
- Water stains

If you find two or more of those things, it's time to re-side.

Determining The Material

There are several materials you can consider: fiber cement, masonry, vinyl, wood-based and cedar.

To find which makes the most sense for your home, see what others in the neighborhood have and browse house magazines. Also, consider your climate and consult your insurance agent; some companies offer discounts on durable, noncombustible fiber cement siding and masonry.

Next, consider how siding materials can enhance curb appeal. Remember, vinyl needs regular cleaning and washing, and wood needs to be repainted every few years. Fiber cement siding needs little maintenance and can save a lot in repairs later. What's more, fiber cement siding from James Hardie is uniquely formulated for wet, freezing conditions and hot, humid conditions so you can match your siding to the



You need not feel up against the wall when you decide to re-side your home.

weather where you live. Durability and sustainability are also important; the U.S. Green Building Council recognizes fiber cement siding in both areas.

Finding A Contractor

The next step is finding and hiring a contractor to do a quality installation on time and on budget. These five tips will help:

1. Ask neighbors, friends and co-workers for referrals.
2. Find contractors who specialize in siding, preferably with a certification.
3. Contact and meet with at least three contractors to get written estimates. Make sure each is licensed and insured, and a member of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI).
4. Do background checks with the Better Business Bureau or Consumer Affairs Office.
5. Prepare a complete project description with your expectations and make sure each proposal includes everything you requested and the price is based on the complete project.

Learn More

Find further facts at www.jameshardie.com/guide.