

Why should I use Cement Board Siding on my home?

The desire for a more carefree lifestyle leads many to choose low-maintenance home exteriors. If your house is situated in a place that experiences extreme climatic conditions, particularly in a place where cold winters are standard, possibly with snow and freezing gales, it is highly essential to protect the exterior of your property. Severe structural damages can be caused due to these extreme climatic conditions and hence installing a siding in your building is essential. One of the best ways to protect your valuable building is to install high-quality cement board siding. Known for its durability, fiber cement siding has recently entered a new era of low maintenance. James Hardie <http://www.jameshardie.com/homeowner/products-colorplus.shtml>, the world's leading supplier of fiber cement building products, just launched its ColorPlus® Technology; a factory-applied finish that is available in 24 colors. This advancement eliminates the need to repaint siding every 3-5 years. All of the siding, fascia and trim offer up to 30 percent better fade resistance than paint and the finish is warranted for 15 years. With the benefits offered by cement board siding, these types of sidings should definitely be used to improve the look of your building and protect it from damages.

History of cement board siding: http://www.compositesiding.org/cement_board_siding.html

Cement board siding was introduced by an Australian firm about one century ago. Cement board siding was found by the company when they researched for a type of siding that could withstand the wear and tear caused by extreme climatic conditions so that it can be used in any part of the world.

Benefits of cement board sidings:

- Cement board sidings are extremely strong as compared to other forms of siding and it is also resistant to rot, insects and fire. One of the important benefits of this type of siding is that it can be easily molded.
- Cement board siding can last until the life of your home and the best thing about it is the low maintenance cost. Pre-primed and ready to be painted cement board siding are available in the market and even pre-colored or pre-painted models are also available and so you need not worry about getting them painted.
- Since cement board siding is highly resistant to fire and wind, it can be installed in areas that are prone to wildfires and winds. Since moisture is not a factor in this type of siding, termites cannot affect it.
- Most of the people think that cement board siding cannot be flexible enough to handle. But, the fact is that it is quite flexible as against its name and installs like traditional wood siding and can be hand-nailed to wood frame.
- Cement board siding styles have a natural wood grain like look and it is hard to differentiate it from wood siding products. Like other type of siding materials, millwork and trim pieces are available for this type of siding and so wonderful design details can

be provided for the siding installed at your home. It is available in stucco panels, shakes or shingles and beveled sidings.

Points to be kept in mind before installing cement board siding:

- There are two types of cement board sidings and these are untreated and pre-stained siding. If you have decided to install this siding by yourself, it is better to go for pre-stained siding and in case it is going to be done by a contractor, you can go for untreated siding since this type gives a wide range of choices for final coloring.
- It is better to get the help of a professional to install cement board siding since it is to be fitted in order, to ensure that your home is fully protected.
- In the case of extreme climates, it is advisable to add extra layer of protection and this can be done by adding a fiber or vinyl. This not only improves the weather proofing qualities, but can also adds an extra layer of insulation thereby keeping your home warm, cutting down your heating bills.
- Different patterns are available in this type of siding and a perfect size of panel should be selected to improve the appearance of your home.



<http://www.jameshardie.com/homeowner/whyJamesHardie.shtml>