

Stucco

Shaded by a tile roof, stucco is the mainstay of Mediterranean and Southwestern and Tudor homes. Low cost makes stucco a popular siding choice. Stucco is an exterior cement plaster, applied over wire lath in several coats.

Often thought of as a "ticky-tacky", cheap siding, stucco has some strong points in its favor. It's fire resistant and won't rot. If the top coat has integral pigment, you may never need to paint. Unlike wood siding, stucco easily takes intricate curves and a wide variety of textures. On the downside, stucco is prone to cracking.