

All the products listed above have their own accessories like trim, mounting blocks, receptacle covers, etc. They should all be used for the specific products that they were designed for. Not that they couldn't be interchangeable but here are a few reasons that you wouldn't want to.

1. Is that if you had a failure of a product you wouldn't want to have the dispute over the reason that it may have failed. One manufacture blaming the other.
2. If your using one of the products that requires painting, then you would want to keep all your paint cycles the same over time. Fiber cement may need painted more frequently than fiber cement or vice vs.

	Pros	Cons
L.P. Smart Side and trim	<p>Very easy to work with from an installation stand point.</p> <p>Product is offered in longer lengths so, it goes up faster with less joints.</p> <p>Performs very well when installed correctly.</p> <p>Highly impact resistant and durable to work with.</p> <p>Easy to paint and perform maintenance.</p>	<p>Product is made from wood strand and can susceptible to fire.</p> <p>Because L.P. is a wood product it can be infiltrated by bugs, birds or rodents.</p>
Vinyl Siding and Accessories	<p>Has a proven track record for many years and is very consistent in its performance.</p> <p>Color of the product is through out the product and requires low maintenance.</p> <p>Will not rot.</p> <p>Has very large range of products to include color, accessories and accents.</p> <p>Is light weight and the easiest of all the products listed to change panels in the event a piece becomes damaged.</p> <p>Most economical and easiest to work with of all the siding listed.</p>	<p>Depending on the thickness of the panel and how its installed vinyl siding can be damaged the easiest of all the listed products do to impact.</p> <p>Expands and contracts with the seasons due to temperature.</p> <p>Over many years product can start to fade, chalk, and become brittle.</p>
Fiber Cement Siding and Accessories:	<p>Is very thermal stable and has the least amount of expansion and contraction of all the sidings listed.</p> <p>Will not burn, has a class 1 (A) fire rating.</p> <p>Termites and woodpeckers will not</p>	<p>Fiber cement is heavy comparatively speaking, and is the most labor intensive of all the sidings listed.</p> <p>Requires special tools to work with.</p> <p>Has limited options for trim.</p>

eat or affect the siding.
Is easily painted and maintenance.
Is very dense and helps reduce sound

Contains silica which can be a harmful.

Aluminum and Steel siding:

Can be made into unique shapes and profiles
If the correct equipment is available planks can be made up to 50' eliminating all seems.

Is a conductor and reduce efficiency.
Highly susceptible to dents.
By far the most difficult product to repair a single component.

Other Considerations:

Adding insulation to the siding or into stud wall cavity.
Ventilation: Gable vents, Soffit vents, or ridge vents.
Railings: Porch, patio, or deck?
Doors: Patio, Entry, or Garage
Painting: Concrete foundation, doors, shutters
Updating: Exterior light fixture, house numbers, or Doorbell
Specialty trim: Drip caps, crown molding, Bead board, Etc.