

When it comes to choosing between stone and stone-like materials for your home, there are several advantages and potential disadvantages of each material type to consider.

Understanding these basic differences will help you make the right choice.



NATURAL STONE

Natural, quarried stone lends a timeless elegance and beauty to any home project. The results can be breathtaking. The natural variance of the tones and patterns of natural stone is unique. Most natural stones can be produced in a full-bed stone, or a thin veneer to fit any project you may be doing. Once installed, you won't see the exact same wall anywhere else. With proper installation natural stone can last for decades or even centuries. Also, due to its natural density, stone provides exceptional cooling and insulating properties in warmer weather.

Stone can be labor-intensive to quarry, transport and install, its cost range varies depending on the stone. With that said, the look of the stone will not fade with time like some other masonry material.

STONE VENEER

Manufactured stone veneers provide a similar appearance to stone, but can be more cost-effective to produce, ship and install. They are produced and shipped in pieces a couple inches thick to mimic the look of a natural thin cut veneer that gives the mason a chance to use their artistry to complete any project, and it can be applied to a variety of non-structural substrates. Manufactured stone can also have their colors and patterns





BRICK AND BRICK VENEER

Bricks are manufactured with uniform size, shape, weight, and color. When compared to stone, their appearance can seem dull and utilitarian. Brick is also much more commonly used in building projects, and therefore do not add the same distinctive design flair that stone does. Brick mortar can wear and weather over time, leading to maintenance and costly repairs. Also, without the presence of a brick ledge, brick veneers can be a higher cost alternative.