

DIY Siding Inspection Guide

This guide helps you perform a basic inspection of your home's vinyl siding. While not a substitute for a professional assessment, regular DIY inspections can help identify potential issues early.

What You'll Need

- ☐ Binoculars (for higher areas)
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Camera/smartphone
- ☐ Screwdriver (to check for firmness)
- ☐ This checklist

Inspection Areas

General appearance:

- ☐ Look for color fading compared to areas with less sun exposure.
- ☐ Check for chalky residue when rubbing hand across siding.
- ☐ Observe from a distance for wavy or uneven appearances.

Physical damage:

- ☐ Inspect for cracks longer than 1 inch.
- ☐ Look for holes or punctures.
- ☐ Check for loose or detached panels.
- ☐ Examine for warped or buckled sections.

Seams and joints:

- ☐ Ensure J-channels around windows/doors are secure.
- ☐ Verify corner posts are properly aligned and attached.
- ☐ Check that horizontal panel overlaps remain tight.

Moisture issues:

- ☐ Look for mold or mildew (especially north-facing walls).
- ☐ Check for water stains extending from seams.
- ☐ Inspect for rot at the bottom edges of panels.

Structural concerns:

- ☐ Press gently on suspicious areas to check for softness.
- ☐ Check if panels sound hollow when tapped (may indicate separation).
- ☐ Look for signs of water damage on interior walls that align with exterior concerns.