

Best Wood Types For Exterior Trim In Damp, Rainy, And Humid Climates



Wood Type	Key Features	Performance	Maintenance
Cedar	Natural oils resist decay and insects; dimensionally stable.	Well-suited for humid climates; absorbs and releases moisture evenly.	Requires sealing and staining every 2-3 years for extended lifespan.
Redwood	Weather-resistant heartwood; free of defects for clean trim look.	Handles moisture well; durable with proper treatment.	Needs consistent staining or coating to maintain appearance.
Tropical Hardwoods (Teak, Ipe)	Exceptionally dense and durable; high natural oil content.	Long lifespan (25-40 years) with minimal moisture and insect damage.	Minimal maintenance required; high initial cost but low upkeep.
Pressure-Treated Wood	Infused with preservatives (e.g., micronized copper azole).	Performs well in wet conditions but prone to surface checking.	Relatively low maintenance, though sealing improves appearance.
Composite	Moisture-resistant; rot and insect-proof; no water absorption.	Outperforms wood in humid and coastal climates.	Requires only basic cleaning; minimal long-term costs.
PVC	Waterproof; resists decay and salt air corrosion.	Ideal for pools and coastal areas; no risk of organic decay.	Low-maintenance; occasional cleaning to sustain appearance.