

The chart below will provide you with a quick overview and comparison of each of these kinds of decks.

	Pressure Treated	Redwood and Cedar	Hardwood	Composites
Cost	Lowest initial cost	Higher initial cost	Higher initial cost	Higher initial cost
Maintenance	Highest maintenance of all decking materials, will likely require replacement boards	High maintenance; requires regular sealing for best performance	Moderate maintenance; requires some staining/sealing to retain finish	Lowest maintenance; long lasting color and texture, especially PVC and capped composites
Performance	Splinters, cracks, splits, warps, stains, and scratches easily	Subject to some cracking and splintering, resists rotting and insects, does stain and scratch easily	Few splinters, highly resistant to deterioration, does not scratch or stain easily	Overcomes performance issues of wood; composites stain, scratch, and fade, but PVC and capped composites are more resilient
Longevity	10-15 years when properly maintained	15-20 years when properly maintained	40+ years when properly maintained	Reputable manufacturers offer warranties typically for 25 years but these decks will last much longer when properly maintained

NOTE: All decks, regardless of materials and construction, should be inspected annually for safety and cleaned with soap and water each year to maintain the best appearance.