

SIDING SQUARES CHART

Ten wall perimeters against six wall heights, with the waste already added, so you can price the walls before you have measured a single gable.

Siding is sold and quoted in squares. A square is 100 square feet, a carton of vinyl covers two of them, and the number a supply house wants when you call an order in is squares rather than square feet.

The number that drives it is perimeter, not floor area. A 1,500 square foot house can have a 160 foot perimeter if it is close to a rectangle, or well over 220 if it has bump outs, a wing and a wrapped porch, and the siding follows the wall rather than the floor. Measure the outside of the building and add it up.

Every figure below is walls only, with 12 percent waste in it. Gables are a separate table on the gable area chart, and openings come off at half once you have counted them.

Siding squares by wall perimeter and wall height

Wall perimeter	8 ft walls	9 ft walls	10 ft walls	16 ft walls	18 ft walls	20 ft walls
100 ft	9	10.1	11.2	17.9	20.2	22.4
120 ft	10.8	12.1	13.4	21.5	24.2	26.9
140 ft	12.5	14.1	15.7	25.1	28.2	31.4
160 ft	14.3	16.1	17.9	28.7	32.3	35.8
180 ft	16.1	18.1	20.2	32.3	36.3	40.3
200 ft	17.9	20.2	22.4	35.8	40.3	44.8
220 ft	19.7	22.2	24.6	39.4	44.4	49.3
240 ft	21.5	24.2	26.9	43	48.4	53.8
260 ft	23.3	26.2	29.1	46.6	52.4	58.2
280 ft	25.1	28.2	31.4	50.2	56.4	62.7

Squares of siding, walls only, 12 percent waste included and no openings deducted. The 8, 9 and 10 foot columns are single story. The 16, 18 and 20 foot columns are two story, where the wall height is both floors plus the band joist between them.

The same walls in full, at 9 foot walls

Wall perimeter	Wall area, sq ft	With 12% waste, sq ft	Squares	Cartons at 2 squares	Starter strip, ft
100 ft	900	1,008	10.1	6	100
120 ft	1,080	1,210	12.1	7	120
140 ft	1,260	1,411	14.1	8	140
160 ft	1,440	1,613	16.1	9	160
180 ft	1,620	1,814	18.1	10	180

Wall perimeter	Wall area, sq ft	With 12% waste, sq ft	Squares	Cartons at 2 squares	Starter strip, ft
200 ft	1,800	2,016	20.2	11	200
220 ft	1,980	2,218	22.2	12	220
240 ft	2,160	2,419	24.2	13	240
260 ft	2,340	2,621	26.2	14	260
280 ft	2,520	2,822	28.2	15	280

Starter strip runs the perimeter once, at the bottom course. It is the piece most often forgotten on the order, and without it the first course has nothing to lock into.

Every figure on this sheet was produced by the same calculator that runs at contractorhandbook.com, free and with no signup.

These are estimating figures for ordering and pricing, not engineering. Nothing here sizes a structural member, checks a load, or replaces local code, a permit, or a manufacturer's installation instructions. Where a rule of thumb is doing the work it is written into the notes under each table rather than hidden.