

Entry Door Buying Guide

Canada 2026

This guide helps Canadian homeowners choose the right entry door material, understand installed cost ranges, and ask the right questions before hiring an installer.

Door Material Comparison

Material	Installed Cost	R-Value	Maintenance	Best For
Steel	\$600-\$1,500	R-5 to R-6	Low	Budget, security
Fiberglass	\$1,200-\$3,000	R-5 to R-8	Very low	Extreme cold, longevity
Wood	\$1,800-\$5,000+	R-2 to R-3	High	Heritage/aesthetics only

5 Questions to Ask Your Installer

1. Does the quote include the full door unit?

Frame, threshold, weatherstripping, and hardware should all be included. Ask for a line-item breakdown.

2. What is the R-value of the door core?

A foam core door should be R-5 or better. Ask for the spec sheet.

3. Is the steel door galvanized?

For coastal or humid climates, galvanized steel significantly extends the door's rust-free life.

4. What warranty covers the weatherstripping?

Weatherstripping is the first thing to fail. Know how long it's covered and what replacement costs.

5. How is the rough opening insulated?

The gap between the frame and rough framing needs to be spray-foamed or insulated. Ask specifically how they handle this.

Energy Efficiency Checklist

- ENERGY STAR certified for your climate zone
 - Foam core (not air-filled) for R-5 or better insulation
 - Thermal break in the frame (critical for steel doors)
 - Triple-point locking that compresses the weatherstrip on all sides
 - High-quality sweep seal at the threshold
 - Low-E glass in any sidelights or transoms
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