

Steel vs Fiberglass vs Wood Entry Doors: A Real GTA Comparison for 2026

Quick reference guide by Luma Doors + Windows

Steel doors

Cheap, strong against impact, will not warp. Dents are permanent. Paint fades in 5 to 8 years. R-5 to R-6. \$400 to \$1,200 supplied.

Fiberglass doors

Highest R-value (R-7 to R-9). No dents, no rust, no rot, no warping. Stained finish lasts 15 to 20 years. \$900 to \$3,500 supplied.

Wood doors

Best aesthetic. Real wood look and feel. Custom options. Requires sanding and re-staining every 3 to 5 years. R-4 to R-5. \$1,500 to \$8,000 supplied.

ER ratings (climate zone 6)

Steel ER 25 to 35. Fiberglass ER 30 to 45. Wood ER 20 to 30. Look for ER 25 or higher in the GTA.

Best for tight budget

Quality steel door from a reputable brand. Especially good for north-facing entries with no sun exposure.

Best for most homeowners

Mid-tier fiberglass with stained finish. Best balance of durability, efficiency, curb appeal, and price.

Best for heritage or custom

Solid wood. Only if you will maintain it. Otherwise it degrades quickly.

Common mistakes

Buying lowest-end fiberglass (no better than steel). Skipping wood maintenance. Choosing material before checking ER rating.