

ENTRY DOOR BUYERS' GUIDE

Common Manufacturers:

Benchmark USA - Manufactured in 🇨🇳 - 🇺🇸
JELD-WEN USA - Manufactured in 🇺🇸
Masonite USA - Manufactured in 🇺🇸
Milgard USA - Manufactured in 🇺🇸
Pella USA - Manufactured in 🇺🇸 - ⭐
Provia USA - Manufactured in 🇺🇸
Sierra Pacific USA - Manufactured in 🇺🇸
Simpson Door USA - Manufactured in 🇰🇷
Stanley Door USA - Manufactured in 🇺🇸
Therma-Tru USA - Manufactured in 🇺🇸
Weather Shield USA - Manufactured in - 🇺🇸 - 🇨🇳 - ⭐

Key Product Differences:

Primary Material Construction
Energy Efficiency & Insulation
Glass / Lite Design Options
Customization & Design Flexibility
Finish and Color Options
Hardware and Lock Compatibility
Storm and Impact Resistance
Weather Resistance and Maintenance
Glass-to-Door Integration
Warranty Terms
Installation Options
Architectural Compatibility



General Buyer's Guidelines:

- Always hire an experienced installer, as a poorly installed doors can lead to air leaks, misalignment, and security issues.
- **Choose the right door material based on your priorities**, wood for natural beauty, fiberglass for low maintenance, or steel for security and durability
- **Match the door to your climate**, selecting moisture-resistant, insulated doors for cold or wet regions, or impact-rated doors in hurricane zones
- **Look for strong energy efficiency**, such as insulated cores, weatherstripping, and Energy Star ratings to help reduce heating and cooling costs.
- **Make sure the door complements your home's style**, whether that means traditional panels, craftsman lines, or sleek modern flush designs.
- **Balance light and privacy** by selecting the right glass inserts, from clear or frosted panels to decorative sidelights and transoms
- **Evaluate door security features**, including solid cores, heavy-duty locks, multipoint systems, or smart lock compatibility.
- **Know whether you need a prehung or slab door**, with prehung options including frames for easier full replacement, and slab doors fitting into existing openings.
- **Compare warranties carefully**, looking for long-term coverage on structure, finish, and insulated glass, especially if resale value matters.

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- **Ensure the door meets local building codes**, especially in areas with fire ratings, wind requirements, or accessibility rules.
- **Consider finish and color options**, deciding between factory-applied coatings for convenience or unfinished doors for custom paint or stain.
- **Don't overlook weather sealing**, as quality thresholds, sills, and gaskets are critical for blocking drafts, moisture, and pests.

Product Manufacturers:

Benchmark - Manufactured in 🇨🇳 - 💰

Popular Products: Steel/fiberglass entry door lines

Key Features:

- Affordable
- Good durability
- Widely available

Best for: Budget-conscious homeowners seeking decent quality from a trusted brand

JELD-WEN - Manufactured in 🇺🇸

Popular Products: Wood, steel, fiberglass, vinyl entry doors

Key Features:

- Broad materials options
- Customizable designs
- Sold via big-box and trade

Best for: Wide selection of styles and materials

Masonite - Manufactured in 🇺🇸

Popular Products: Wood-composite and molded exterior doors

Key Features:

- Cost-effective wood-composite
- Broad product lines
- Consistent quality

Best for: Economical yet stylish molded exterior doors.

Milgard - Manufactured in 🇺🇸

Popular Products: Fiberglass, vinyl, aluminum entry doors

Key Features:

- Energy-efficient materials
- Lifetime warranty
- Built for PNW climate

Best for: Climate-adapted durability

Pella - Manufactured in 🇺🇸 - ⭐

Popular Products: Fiberglass, wood, steel entry doors

Key Features:

- Authentic wood aesthetics
- Energy-efficient
- Decorative glass & smart lock options

Best for: Variety of materials, design flexibility and reliability

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Provia - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Fiberglass, steel, and wood entry and storm doors

Key Features:

- Composite fiberglass lines
- SecureStart steel entry systems
- Custom sizing and impact-rated options

Best for: Premium craftsmanship and customization with strong performance.

Sierra Pacific - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Wood-clad & aluminum-clad entry doors

Key Features:

- Vertically integrated wood supply
- Hurricane-rated when needed
- Custom wood doors

Best for: Premium wood or clad doors

Simpson - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Handcrafted hardwood exterior entry doors

Key Features:

- Custom wood doors
- Handcrafted in Washington
- Rich styles and artisan finishes

Best for: Artisan-crafted real-wood doors made in WA

Stanley - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Steel and fiberglass front doors

Key Features:

- Low-maintenance steel
- Durable, affordable designs
- Available at big-box retailers

Best for: Budget-friendly, durable entry doors.

Therma-Tru - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Fiberglass and steel entry doors

Key Features:

- Energy-efficient fiberglass
- Decorative glass
- Storm door integration

Best for: Energy-conscious, low-maintenance fiberglass doors

Weather Shield - Manufactured in  -  - 

Popular Products: Wood, aluminum-clad wood entry doors

Key Features:

- Wide style/color range
- Excellent energy ratings
- Custom sizes

Best for: Custom, energy-efficient real-wood exterior.

