



VINYL BACK COMPARISON



SUNDECKS | ROOF DECKS | BALCONIES | PATIOS | STAIRS | POOL DECKS | WALKWAYS

COMPARE MEMBRANE BACKING OPTIONS

Compare...	NON-WOVEN BACKED (Fuzzy Backed)	WOVEN BACKED (Polyester Scrim on Back)	PVC BACKED (Polyester Scrim in Center)
As it relates to Adhesive	Adhesive sticks well to fibers. Adhesive is typically less expensive.	Adhesive sticks well to scrim backing. Scrim can be removed if adhesive is accidentally applied to seaming area. Contact adhesives used allow for a wide window of application in all seasons.	
	Can "suck up" adhesive, so will use more. Excessive glue will cause bubbles.	Contact adhesives used are product specific and not available "off the shelf".	Adhesive is typically expensive. No second chance if weld area contaminated with glue. Contact adhesive has a short "working window" making it difficult to use in bad weather or the off season.
As it relates to Welding	Fibres can be melted off with heat gun to allow vinyl to vinyl adhesion. Reasonable welds can be achieved by experienced applicator.	Solid color throughout which helps create a solid "bleed out". Scrim melts creating a strong vinyl to vinyl weld. Average results but exceeds industry standards.	Weld is strong as no scrim barrier. Easiest to master installation techniques.
	Involves more steps as the fuzz has to be "buzzed". Molten "Fuzz" material can contaminate weld. Longer time to master installation techniques.	Requires more skill to master installation techniques.	Different colored ply makes for bad "bleed out" on welds.
As it relates to Details	Being an "un-reinforced" membrane it is easy to detail with.	Backing can be removed and vinyl easily manipulated for successful detailing. Standard details are easily attainable without extra prep or expensive, pre-manufactured details or PVC metal.	
	Because the fuzz wicks water, you have to remove it or saturate the cut exposed ends at drip flashings, drains, etc. with glue.		Center reinforced vinyl is more difficult to bend for detailing. Due to the difficulty to adopt to 90° bends, PVC metal and pre made corner boots are required for proper waterproof detailing.
As it relates to Misc.	Usually less expensive system.	Easier to work with in hot weather. Good combination of strength and elasticity. Sets Duradek apart from the others.	Because of its conventional "roofing" construction, it is the preferred membrane of some specifiers.
	At any waterproofing breach in the membrane, water can wick through fibers (if not properly coated with adhesive), causing rot and damage of substrate. Depending on the substrate, repositioning the membrane can be difficult, as it will stick like Velcro to rough plywood, even without being glued. In hot weather applications the vinyl will "creep" when being smoothed out during application. Often sold as a "cash & carry" product, so available to untrained individuals. Specifiers are often leery of fuzzy backed products.	Only sold to trained contractors, not sold through wholesalers or to the public.	Only top ply has UV/Mildew Inhibitors. Bottom ply typically has "fillers". Higher chance of vinyl delaminating. More difficult to hide sub-surface blemishes due to hard surface.

