



The Stucco Scrape

How to avoid one of South Carolina's biggest home-buying headaches!

Stucco is a popular material used in the construction of homes in the Lowcountry. You've probably seen a beautiful house covered in a thick layer of gorgeously textured stucco and dreamed of living within those glorious walls.

No building material is perfect; wood burns, brick crumbles, and, as one little pig discovered, straw is basically useless. Stucco is not immune from material issues, but this shouldn't deter you from buying the home of your dreams!

What is Stucco? [INSERT IMAGE OF STUCCO]

Stucco looks like concrete with a bit of an artistic flair, and that basic visualization isn't very far off. The main chemical difference between stucco and concrete is stucco's inclusion of lime.

In practice, this makes stucco a more breathable material. While not ideal for structure, this breathability makes stucco ideal for an exterior finishing material. More attractive than siding or brick, stucco makes a home stand out from the crowd!

What's the catch?

Stucco's main draw, it's mold-ability and textures, makes it prone to water seepage. When utilized incorrectly, stucco can lead to:

- Exterior cracks
- Water staining
- Water damage (between exterior and interior walls)
- Mold issues (due to water damage)

What can I do about it?

Luckily, a lot of common stucco issues can be easily mitigated! Here are some examples of common stucco issues and simple solutions:

- 1.) **Hairline Cracks** - Though not critical damage, small cracks in your stucco can grow and eventually lead to severe water seepage and mold issues. These cracks can be easily repaired with a bit of caulk and paint. [INSERT IMAGE OF CRACKS]
- 2.) **Minor Water Damage** – Minor water damage can turn major in a matter of years. Instead of writing a hefty check, try removing the old stucco in the damaged area and replacing it with new material. Think of it like replacing drywall! [INSERT IMAGE OF WATER DAMAGE]
- 3.) **Exterior Mold** – Mold growing on your stucco can be extremely unsightly, and lead to damage later. By watching for broken gutters and pooling in a moldy location, repairing those issues, then scrubbing the moldy location with a bleach and water solution, you can stop mold from spreading and prevent it from coming back! [INSERT IMAGE OF MOLD]

The Verdict on Stucco. [INSERT IMAGE OF GAVEL]

When used properly, stucco can change a structure for the better and grow your home's resale value. This material has been used in America since the 1820's, and it's here to stay. With the proper attention, your stucco home can stay crack, water, and mold free for cheap!

Interested in a Stucco Home?

We're selling stucco! Check out these gorgeous stucco [homes for sale in Belfair, SC](#), as well as these [luxury homes in Palmetto Bluff, SC](#).