

COST BENEFIT OF COMPOSITE MATS VS. WOOD MATS VS. STONE

 MEANS AND METHODS	 UPFRONT CASH OUTLAY	 FREIGHT COSTS	 ENVIRONMENTAL RISK	 PROJECT END (DAY 120)	 TOTAL 4-MONTH COST PROFILE
COMPOSITE MATS 4-month rental	LOW First month's rent + initial freight	HIGHLY EFFICIENT Up to 260 LF of roadway per truckload	ZERO Impermeable to liquids; will not rot, splinter or degrade	FAST EXIT Mats are washed, stacked, and picked up by vendor	HIGHLY PREDICTABLE Flat monthly fee + predictable inbound/outbound freight
WOOD / TIMBER MATS 4-month rental	LOW First month's rent + initial freight	EXPENSIVE Approximately 184 LF of roadway per truckload	MEDIUM TO HIGH Will absorb liquids and susceptible to splintering and rotting, creating a risk of site contamination	MODERATE EXIT Heavier, waterlogged/muddy mats add weight resulting in higher freight costs plus on-site disposal fees for broken mats	MODERATE TO HIGH Lower rental rate but higher inbound and outbound freight plus disposal costs and damage fees for broken mats
STONE / GRAVEL Purchase	MEDIUM 100% upfront purchase of rock, geotextiles, and dump truck haulage	VERY EXPENSIVE Approximately 50 LF of roadway per truckload	EXTREME Massive regulatory risk that can completely alter soil conditions	NIGHTMARE EXIT Requires removal of stone; leaves ruts, destroys top soil and triggers site restoration expenses	UNCAPPED Inexpensive to buy rock, but excavation + remediation costs are unpredictable

RENTING COMPOSITE MATS

Predictable Costs from Start to Finish

Composite mats provide temporary access without the upfront cost of purchasing a system. Efficient freight and straightforward removal help keep costs predictable throughout a four-month project.

RENTING WOOD / TIMBER MATS

Lower Rent, More Variable Costs

Lower rental rates can be offset by higher freight, handling, and potential damage costs. Wet and muddy conditions can also make removal more difficult and expensive.

USING STONE / GRAVEL

Costs Beyond the Material

The initial cost of aggregate is only part of the total expense. Hauling, installation, removal, disposal, and site restoration can significantly increase costs over a temporary four-month project.