

Comparison between Various Materials of Construction for Cooling Towers

Cooling towers can be made from a large variety of materials of construction. A small comparison between Concrete, FRP and timber highlights the difference between them and their relative advantages and disadvantages.

Criteria	Timber	FRP	RCC
Quality	Available Timber of Low Grade	Consistent and High Quality	Depends on Specifications
Cost of Installation and Running	Low Installation Cost and High Running Cost	Slightly High Installation but Low Running Cost	High Cost for Small Tower
O&M	High	Low	Low but High for Corrosive Environment
Length of Members	Small	Large and Can be made Larger	As per Design
Bio Decay by Fungus	Decays due to Fungus, Algae and Bacteria	No Such Decay	Algae Formation
Repair and Replacement	Very Frequent	Very Less	Very Less
Life	5 Years	15-20 Years	20 Years
Environmental Impact	Wood Logging and Treatment of Wood plays havoc with environment	No such impact	No such impact