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Mulches & Landscape Fabric Comparison Chart

Landscape Fabric

Nonbiodegradable mulch →

Material	Recyclability	Part #	Product Name	Thickness	Approx Avg Weight**	Color	Texture	Primary Application(s)	Strengths	Limitations	Origin
Woven polypropylene; backing is polyester blended with polypropylene	*		**Pro 5 Weed Barrier Landscape Fabric** - 4′ x 50′	35mil/889μ	6.5lb/2.9kg	Flat black	Woven; needle-punched	Weed suppression	Most effective weed control fabric available; permeable yet provides good soil moisture conservation; lasts 5 years or more, reusable with proper care; great for perennials; striped every 12″ to aid in plant alignment	Requires anchoring with fabric stables or soil; more costly than standard plastic mulches	India
Woven polypropylene; backing is polyester blended with polypropylene	*		**Pro 5 Weed Barrier Landscape Fabric** - 4′ x 250′	35mil/889μ	37lb/16.8kg	Flat black	Woven; needle-punched	Weed suppression	Most effective weed control fabric available; permeable yet provides good soil moisture conservation; lasts 5 years or more, reusable with proper care; great for perennials; striped every 12″ to aid in plant alignment	Requires anchoring with fabric stables or soil; more costly than standard plastic mulches	India
Cellulose (paper)	Biodegradable		**Planters Paper Mulch** - 2′ x 50′	Approx. 5.0mil/127μ (55–60-lb weight paper)	2.1lb/1kg	Black	Kraft-type paper	Weed suppression; soil warming	Sustainability; labor-saving; weed suppression similar to plastic mulch; US-made	Approx. 2°F/1.1°C less soil-warming capacity than poly mulch; edges may need to be secured periodically throughout the season to avoid moving and tearing	New England
Cellulose (paper)	Biodegradable		**Planters Paper Mulch** - 4′ x 100′	Approx. 5.0mil/127μ (55–60-lb weight paper)	6lb/2.7kg	Black	Kraft-type paper	Weed suppression; soil warming	Sustainability; labor-saving; weed suppression similar to plastic mulch; US-made	2°F/1.1°C less soil-warming capacity than poly mulch; edges may need to be secured periodically throughout the seasonto avoid moving and tearing	New England
Non-GMO, plant-sourced, compostable polyester	Biodegradable		**Bio360 Biodegradable Mulch** - 4′ x 500′	0.6mil/15.2μ	9.1lb/4.1kg	Flat black	Smooth	Soil warming; weed suppression	Sustainability; labor-saving; weed suppression similar to standard plastic mulch; can be used with mechanical mulch layers	More costly than nonbiodegradable polymeric mulch; may require time to degrade in soil after being tilled in	Canada
Non-GMO, plant-sourced, compostable polyester	Biodegradable		**Bio360 Biodegradable Mulch** - 4′ x 4000′	0.6mil/15.2μ	62lb/28.1kg	Flat black	Smooth	Soil warming; weed suppression	Sustainability; labor-saving; weed suppression similar to standard plastic mulch; can be used with mechanical mulch layers	More costly than nonbiodegradable polymeric mulch; may require time to degrade in soil after being tilled in	Canada

* Some recycling centers will accept plastic mulch films for recycling. Contact your regional recycling facilities for more information.

** Can vary slightly from roll to roll.



Planters Paper® Mulch



Black Mulch



SRM Red Mulch

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Nonbiodegradable Mulch

Material	Recyclability	Part #	Product Name	Thickness	Approx Avg Weight**	Color	Texture	Primary Application(s)	Strengths	Limitations	Origin
Polyethylene	*		**Black Mulch** - 4′ x 50′, Smooth	1.0mil/25.4μ	25lb/11.3kg	Black	Smooth	Weed suppression; soil warming	Most economical; durable; easily installed; reduces soil moisture evaporation; strong enough for double usage	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable	Guatemala
Polyethylene	*		**Black Mulch** - 4′ x 100′, Smooth	1.0mil/25.4μ	36lb/16.3kg	Black	Smooth	Weed suppression; soil warming	Most economical; durable; easily installed; reduces soil moisture evaporation; strong enough for double usage	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable	Guatemala
Polyethylene	*		**Black Mulch** - 4′ x 600′, Embossed	1.0mil/25.4μ	16lb/7.3kg	Black	Embossed	Weed suppression; soil warming	Most economical; durable; easily installed; reduces soil moisture evaporation; strong enough for double usage; embossing provides extra stretchability for snug fit, better soil contact, and better soil warming capability	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable	USA
Polyethylene	*		**Black Mulch** - 4′ x 2000′, Embossed	1.0mil/25.4μ	45lb/20.4kg	Black	Embossed	Weed suppression; soil warming	Most economical; durable; easily installed; reduces soil moisture evaporation; strong enough for double usage; embossing provides extra stretchability for snug fit, better soil contact, and better soil warming capability	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable	USA
Polyethylene	*		**Black Mulch** - 4′ x 4000′, Embossed	1.0mil/25.4μ	85lb/38.6	Black	Embossed	Weed suppression; soil warming	Most economical; durable; easily installed; reduces soil moisture evaporation; strong enough for double usage; embossing provides extra stretchability for snug fit, better soil contact, and better soil warming capability	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable	USA
Polyethylene	*		**Solar Mulch** - 4′ x 50′	1.0mil/25.4μ	25lb/11.3kg	Varied	Embossed	Soil warming 8–10°F/4.4–5.6°C; weed suppression	Allows near-IR light to penetrate, to warm soil, but blocks penetration by visible light, to prevent weed seed germination	Nonbiodegradable; non-permeable; should be laid soon after tilling the soil for maximum weed suppression	Canada
Polyethylene	*		**Solar Mulch** - 4′ x 2400′	1.0mil/25.4μ	46lb/20.9kg	Varied	Embossed	Soil warming 8–10°F/4.4–5.6°C; weed suppression	Allows near-IR light to penetrate, to warm soil, but blocks penetration by visible light, to prevent weed seed germination; embossed for compatibility with mechanical mulch layer	Nonbiodegradable; non-permeable; should be laid soon after tilling the soil for maximum weed suppression	Canada
Polyethylene	*		**SRM Red Mulch** - 4′ x 30′	1.0mil/25.4μ	18lb/8.2	Red	Smooth	Boosts yield of tomatoes and strawberries; soil warming (4–6°F/2.2–3.3°C); weed suppression	Suppresses weeds; retains moisture; reflects far-red wavelengths, so crop canopy absorbs more light	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable; inappropriate for use at higher latitudes	Guatemala
Polyethylene	*		**SRM Red Mulch** - 4′ x 100′	1.0mil/25.4μ	36lb/16.3kg	Red	Smooth	Boosts yield of tomatoes and strawberries; soil warming (4–6°F/2.2–3.3°C); weed suppression	Suppresses weeds; retains moisture; reflects far-red wavelengths, so crop canopy absorbs more light	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable; inappropriate for use at higher latitudes	Guatemala
Polyethylene	*		**SRM Red Mulch** - 4′ x 600′	1.0mil/25.4μ	14lb/1.8kg	Red	Smooth	Boosts yield of tomatoes and strawberries; soil warming (4–6°F/2.2–3.3°C); weed suppression	Suppresses weeds; retains moisture; reflects far-red wavelengths, so crop canopy absorbs more light	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable; inappropriate for use at higher latitudes	Guatemala
Polyethylene	*		**SRM Red Mulch** - 4′ x 3000′	1.0mil/25.4μ	65lb/29.5kg	Red	Smooth	Boosts yield of tomatoes and strawberries; soil warming (4–6°F/2.2–3.3°C); weed suppression	Suppresses weeds; retains moisture; reflects far-red wavelengths, so crop canopy absorbs more light	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable; inappropriate for use at higher latitudes	Guatemala
Polyethylene	*		**White on Black Mulch** - 4′ x 50′	1.0mil/25.4μ	25lb/11.3kg	White/Black	Embossed	Soil cooling; weed suppression	Good for cool-loving crops such as brassicas	Nonbiodegradable; non-permeable; for use during warm conditions	Canada
Polyethylene	*		**White on Black Mulch** - 4′ x 4000′	1.0mil/25.4μ	76lb/34.5kg	White/Black	Embossed	Soil cooling; weed suppression	Good for cool-loving crops such as brassicas	Nonbiodegradable; non-permeable; for use during warm conditions	Canada
High-density polyethylene (HDPE)	* 2 HDPE		**Metallic Silver Mulch** - 4′ x 50′	1.0mil/25.4μ	25lb/11.3kg	Metallic surface; black undersurface (co-extruded)	Smooth	Repels insects; soil cooling 2–6°F/1.1–3.3°C	Suppresses weeds; reduces pest and disease pressure; retains moisture; reflective, so crop canopy absorbs more light	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable	Canada
High-density polyethylene (HDPE)	* 2 HDPE		**Metallic Silver Mulch** - 4′ x 4000′	1.0mil/25.4μ	76lb/34.5kg	Metallic surface; black undersurface (co-extruded)	Smooth	Repels insects; soil cooling 2–6°F/1.1–3.3°C	Suppresses weeds; reduces pest and disease pressure; retains moisture; reflective, so crop canopy absorbs more light	Nonbiodegradable; nonpermeable	Canada

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