**Although there is no substitute for seeing sculptures in person to help you decide between different material finishes, I have compiled this chart of some of the most popular options to help you understand the pros and cons of these particular materials and finishes. If you would like further information on any of the materials please do not hesitate to contact me via the contact page on the website and I will be happy to help.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Material** | **Appearance** | **Touchy feely** | **Longevity** | **Strength** | **Vulnerabilit** | **Indoor** | **Outdoor** |
| Gypsum/plaster | White, clean, stone/marble-like. | Fairly heavy due to high stone content, cool and satisfying to touch. | If cared for correctly can last many generations.  Soukld be dusted NOT washed. | High stone content means it is stronger than perceived. However vulnerable to breakage if dropped. | Moisture, dropping/knocking,staining from nearby chemicals in air or dirt/grease from hands when handled. | Indoor only | X |
| Terracotta cast (Plaster based) | Almost identical to Terracotta ceramic. | Slightly heavier than plaster due to iron content cool and satisfying to touch. Matt unless waxed. | If cared for correctly can last many generations.  Waxed casts Must NOT be washed, unwaxed may be washed. | Very strong, however vulnerable to breakage if dropped. | Vulnerable from moisture (especially freeze/thaw), dropping, knocking,,staining from nearby chemicals in air or dirt and grease from hands when handled. | I  ndoor only | Outdoor if protected from heavy frosts |
| Painted gypsum | Mimics appearance of certain metals | Fairly heavy as for Gypsum plaster above. | If cared for correctly can last many generations although paint/wax finish may need periodic retouching. | High stone content means it is stronger than perceived. However vulnerable to breakage if dropped. | Moisture, dropping/knocking but most vulnerable to scratching. | Indoor only | X |
| Metal veneer over gypsum or Jesmonite | Looks like real metal, can be patinated as such | Feels like real metal to the touch, although weight is more than gyspum/less than true metal | If cared for correctly can last many generations. Offers additional protection over basic gypsum products. | High stone content means it is stronger than perceived. However vulnerable to breakage if dropped.or scratched. | Veneered Plaster | Indoor only | X |
| Veneered Jesmonite AC200 | Indoor only | X |
| Vennered Jesmonite AC730 | Indoor | Outdoor |
| Jesmonite Stone | Looks like the real materials. Available in Natural tone, Bathstone,Yellow Sandstone, White Marble, Portland Stone, Silver Grey Granite, Old Terracotta and Charcoal  Black. | Fairly heavy due to high stone/cement content.  Has the appearance and feel of stone (though less cold to the touch) | If cared for correctly can last many generations.  May colour due to algae, but easily cleaned. | Very strong. Usually reinforced with glass fibre quadaxial matting. Lighter than natural stone 9large pieces being hollow).  Maller sculptures can be broken if dropped or fine detail (eg fingers) can be broken as per real stone sculptures. | Smaaller sculptures can be broken if dropped or fine detail (eg fingers) can be broken as per real stone sculptures.  Surface is tough and waterproof. Suitable for water features, fountain pieces, and garden statuary. | Indoor | Outdoor |
| Cold cast metal  (Polyurethane Resin or Jesmonite Flex Metal) | Looks like real metal, can be patinated as such and/or engraved | Aluminium quite light weight, but other cold cast metals can be very heavy - particularly bronze.(though much lighter than true bronze castings). | If cared for correctly can last many generations. | Stronger than gypsum but not as strong as true metal. Jesmonite Flex Metal can be used as a coating for unique pieces or within moulds. Polyurethane will require the production of silicone moulds usually made by third parties overseen by Rob. | Will usually withstand bumps/scuffs but finer elements  (Eg fingers) may suffer breakage by dropping onto hard surfaces.  If placed outside or near moisture then metal content may patinate naturally e.g. iron will rust, copper and bronze will verdigris or darken, etc | Indoor | Outdoor |
| Polyurea | Waterproof, flexible coating which can be veneered or painted to simulate a great many materials | Can produce extremely light weight, immensely strong and durable sculpture | If cared for correctly can last many generations.  Tough and can take a degree of abuse. | Strength and weight depending upon the ‘substrate’. Any Jesmonite product or even high density polystyrene can be coated (which can be extremely useful to produce large scale. Light weight sculpture)  NB Third parties used for this industrial process are overseen by Rob). | Very hard wearing. Unlikely to be damaged easily but Painted/finish may be damaged if scratched.  Highly recommended. | Indoor | Outdoor |
| Bronze | Gorgeous chestnut toned metal but can be patinated in many ways from white to Verdigris, Blue, Reds through to Black | Very heavy, cool to the touch. | If cared for correctly can last many generations. | Very strong, unlikely to break or be dented.  Expensive due to lengthy foundry processes undertaken by specialists overseen and in collaboration with Rob. | Very few problems | Indoor | Outdoor |

**NB**

**Unique pieces are generally more expensive.**

**Unique pieces can be moulded to produce sculpture in any of the above materials. Once quotations have been obtained for the processes involved in mould making and casting, prices may be lower than for the unique work (with the possible exception of real Bronze or foundry cast metals. Rob with secure final quotations and oversee all work.**

**Customers would have to wait for completion of the work.**