

	Synthetic Palm	Natural Palm		Synthetic Palm	Natural Palm
Warranty	20 years against manufacturing defects	None	Fire resistance	It does not spread fire and also contains flame retardant for greater safety	Null. It is destroyed by fire surprisingly quickly.
Useful life time	30 years	5 years	Quality	Industrial, high resistance	Minimum
Maintenance	Maintenance free	Replacement of damaged and rotten materials. Constant application of fire retardant and fumigation.	Effects of weathering	Maintains its appearance	As the leaves rot rapidly, the surface turns black and dirty. It soon loses its appearance.
Origin of the material	Legally established manufacturers, national and imported products	Informal market	Impermeability	Complete. Does not let water through.	Acceptable when newly installed. Large leaks appear as it rots over time.
Material components	High-density polyethylene; UV protection; fire retardant; color integrated from the factory	Dried palm leaves obtained from the felling of various species of tropical palms	Wind resistance	High. The leaves are held in place by being secured with screws.	Low, the wind erodes them
Average annual price per square meter of the material, taking into account its useful life (excluding maintenance)	Synthetic palm has a 20-year warranty, while natural palm has a 5-year lifespan (unless burned beforehand). Averaging the price per square meter, the years of lifespan, and comparing the results, we find that synthetic palm is approximately 50% cheaper than natural palm and also saves on the maintenance that natural palm requires.		Added value	High. The value of the palapa remains the same, and even increases, due to the quality of the materials used to build it.	Low. It depreciates due to its natural decomposition process.
			Vulnerability	Low.	High, catches fire very easily (a piece of glass exposed to sunlight is enough to quickly start a fire)
Risk insurance	It does not impact the cost of insurance for the property where the palapa is installed.	Due to the high risk of fires, premiums for insuring properties where there are natural palm palapas are high	Construction system	It is screwed and fastened at strategic points of the structure, following elementary engineering construction processes.	It is woven and tied to the structure, following regional construction processes based on the artisan's empirical knowledge.
Pests	Immune. No insects, reptiles, or harmful fauna are harbored.	Vulnerable. They are nests for reptiles and harmful fauna			
Ecology	Non-polluting product	Obtaining natural palm means deforesting forests and damaging nature.	Color	It remains and fades approximately 30% in 20 years	It becomes contaminated, stained and deteriorates in the short term.