

Entry Doors Deserve Some Thought

More and more homeowners are realizing that first impressions are important.

By Sheila Hahn

Whether you own a new or old home, the front door is truly a key focal point ... possibly one of the reasons why door manufacturers are taking door design to a completely different level. Your front entrance should emphasize the character of the house, so it's important to ensure that the style of your door complements your home's exterior. Typically, a rustic door would look out of place on a modern home and vice versa. "Custom" seems to be a very adaptable word these days, embracing everything from a truly hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind item to a production product "customized" by size or finish. Professionals, including artists, are perfecting techniques using a simple metal door as their canvas and replicating such finishes as a beautiful copper patina or creating original works of art that would catch the watchful eye of any collector. Unique materials can also be incorporated into door design. The use of copper is quickly becoming a growing trend in the door industry, and craftsmen are creating remarkable designs, attracting the attention of those who are looking for added character in their home. Doors crafted from exotic woods are still a chosen favorite, and will give any home the authentic look that it deserves. With so many choices available on the market, it is important to do your research and select a product that suits your needs and will give you the look you're trying to achieve.

Jody Dyrland, owner of NuView Windows and Doors Inc., is an elite homebuilder who creates stunning entries that truly set his homes apart from the rest. He believes that "custom doors will create a distinct impression to any home. The right door will add curb appeal that sells." With so many of Dyrland's clients requesting custom entries, his showroom of doors is constantly changing. Clients can select a variety of options which would include the type of wood, finish color, metal accents such as clavos or grilles, hardware and decorative glass. Finishing the door with beautiful hardware can be a statement unto itself.



There are a few more ideas you can use to give your home that truly authentic look. Replacing standard glass panels in French doors with custom stained glass is a great way to create a look that is distinctive, yet timeless. For those areas in your home where there is a non-standard opening, commissioned custom doors such as these are a great solution to the problem.

There's no doubt that homeowners have plenty of opportunity to make a statement with their entry doors. With homebuilders now making the effort to offer a better product selection to their clients, the availability and decision-making is that much easier during the building process.

E-mail your decorating questions and photos to designers@kohon.ca or visit website www.kohon.ca