

CANADA'S HOME IDEA BOOK

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# RENO&DECOR

## *perfect* **PALETTES** FOR THE ENTIRE HOME

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influences  
in the GTA



What **COLOUR**  
should you paint  
your **FRONT DOOR?**

**PRODUCT SHOWCASES:** Paint, Wallpaper and Home Furnishings

# MAKE A STATEMENT

Show your front door some love with these paint colour cues

BY JACKLYN LITTLE

**W**ith a small quart of paint and some elbow grease, you can update your front door and transform it from boring to beautiful in a couple of hours on a weekend. That's the budget-friendly way to improve curb appeal without embarking on a large exterior overhaul.

Whatever the style of your home or exterior façade, here are some exterior paint tips to help the project go smoothly and quickly so you can get back to enjoying the rest of the summer.

## PRIMED FOR SUCCESS

Both Benjamin Moore and Farrow & Ball have good exterior primers. Depending on the colour you select, Farrow & Ball has four shades of primers, whereas Benjamin Moore's primer is Fresh Start interior/exterior all-purpose primer.

You may need a coloured primer. For example, if you select black as the paint colour, your primer should be tinted either medium or dark grey for best top-coat results.

If the door is wood then use exterior wood primer and undercoat. Or, if you have a metal door, use metal primer and undercoat, both from Farrow & Ball. Always consult with the paint supplier as to the condition of your door before you start and get the right undercoat/primer.

Before applying the undercoat/primer, clean the door then give it a quick sanding and wipe down the excess. For best results, give it at least one coat of primer and two coats of paint.

If the door is in good shape and you want to really make it stand out, consider a high-gloss paint. The Farrow & Ball Full Gloss Exterior is 95 per cent sheen and the Benjamin Moore full gloss is 85 per cent. If you don't want the full-shine look, use the eggshell finish with a 20 per cent sheen level.



## PAINT-FRIENDLY WEATHER

For the painting environment, do not paint below 10C, or with excessive heat above 30C. Of course, do not paint if there is a likelihood of rain. Paint is best applied early in the day to allow drying before evening condensation.

My painting technique is to always start with an angled brush to get in all the nooks and crannies and finish with a small sponge roller for a clean, smooth, freshly painted look.

## JACKLYN'S COLOUR GUIDE

When selecting a colour for your front door, it is important to select a colour that would complement your home's exterior. If your home is grey with a modern exterior, consider painting the door a bright yellow, orange or a deep purple. More importantly, though, select a colour that suits your personal style and home.

If you have a traditional red-brick home and want that old world charm, consider using black or a medium green paint colour. Whether your home is a traditional, modern or county/rustic style, here are some specific colour guidelines.

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FARROW & BALL  
PAINT COLOURS

BENJAMIN MOORE  
PAINT COLOURS



Babouche No. 223

If you have a black or grey exterior



Hawthorne Yellow – HC-4



Charlotte's Locks No. 268

If you have a charcoal grey or medium grey exterior



Pink Mix – 2089-30



Churlish Green No. 251

If you have a black, white or dark brown exterior



Atmospheric – AF-500



Railings No. 31

For railings, this colour looks good with all exterior colours



Black Beauty – 2128-10



Incarnadine No. 248

If the outside of your house has a light or dark brown exterior



Brick Red – 2084-10



Green Smoke No. 47

If the outside of your home is taupe, white or yellow



Amazon Green – 2136-30



Pelt No. 254

If your home has a yellow, beige or brown exterior



Caponata – AF-650



Hague Blue No. 30

This colour looks great with all exterior colours



Naples Blue – 2057-30

If your garage over-shadows the front door, consider a bright and bold colour with a full-gloss finish, to spotlight the front door.



Jacklynn Little is a residential interior decorator specializing in design, renovation and decorating projects of all sizes in Toronto and the GTA. With an emphasis on comfort and functionality, she is located in central Toronto and is the principal decorator behind Jacklynn Little Interiors. Jacklyn is registered with Canadian Decorators Association. For more information, [jacklynnlittleinteriors.com](http://jacklynnlittleinteriors.com)