

The Main Entry.

You have been using them all your life, yet, have you ever thought about the impact that a main entry has on all who pass through it?

It is the first thing a visitor sees when entering a space. It is the last thing seen when leaving. It makes the first and lasting impression of what lies beyond.

What makes a main entry *beautiful*?

Several reactions need to take place for a main entry to be effective in communicating a positive message to guests. It must...

- invite you into the space beyond
- make you feel welcome
- make a statement without being strong or offensive to the visitor
- just look right!



How do you make these reactions happen in your main entry?

In this E-book you will learn step-by-step, how to create the well-balanced front entry that your home deserves.

We begin by determining the *style* of your home.
Next, we look at the architectural *balance of the house front*
And finally, the *house setting*.
Then, using your house data, you will be able to create a plan to make the most of *your* homes features.

Every home deserves to look it's *best*, while telling a story about the owners.

Your new main entry is just a few steps from becoming realty.

Let's get started

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CHAPTER 1 – DETERMINING HOUSE STYLE

In this section, you will evaluate your houses style.
Begin by determining the *predominant* style of your home.
Your home may very clearly be one style, or a combination of styles
(in which case you should choose the most prominent style).

Examples of the *most common* house styles.

COLONIAL STYLE

Floor plans feature a center hall with living room on one side, dining room on the other, kitchen and private rooms in the back. Colonial design includes a symmetrical exterior styling, multi-pane, double-hung windows with shutters, dormers, central front doors, shutters, and pilasters. The exteriors are generally wood or brick.



VICTORIAN STYLE

Victorian floor plans are free form and rambling, having features of brightly painted exterior, wrap-around front porch and detailed ornamental elements. Bay windows, wide verandas, turrets, and grand towers may be incorporated into a Victorian plan. The floor plans are composed of one or two levels having an asymmetrical layout and an irregular roof-line in which gables face several directions and roof pitches vary. Front doors are four-paneled with no or narrow side-lights, and windows are long and narrow, sometimes with bays.



EARLY 20th CENTURY STYLE

In the early 1900s, builders discarded the elaborate Victorian styles. Homes for the new century were compact, economical, and informal. Frank Lloyd Wright revolutionized the American home when he began to design houses with low horizontal lines and open interior spaces.



BUNGALOW / CRAFTSMAN STYLE

With features of low-pitched shingled roofs, exposed beams and wood, stone and/or stucco siding, the Bungalow home became popular in all regions of the United States during the 1910s and 1920s. Welcoming front porches and lots of windows invite you into the open one to one-and-a-half story floor plans. Bungalow floor plans usually cluster the kitchen, dining area, bedrooms, and bathroom around a central living area.



CAPE COD STYLE

Generally one to one-and-a-half story dormered homes featuring steep roofs with side gables and a small overhang. Bedrooms are tucked on the second floor and Cape Cod homes are typically covered in clapboard or shingles and are symmetrical in appearance. Cape Cod homes are designed with a central door, multi-paned, double-hung windows, shutters, a formal, center-hall floor plan, hardwood floors and little exterior ornamentation. .



FARMHOUSE STYLE

Farmhouse plans vary according to the regional where they are located. Typical features are an open kitchen and living room, wood-frame construction and finishes. Farmhouse floor plans are usually square or symmetrically shaped, sometimes with side wings. Farmhouse designs often include deep and wide wrap-around front porches.



LOG HOME STYLE

Early log houses were sturdy, rain-proof, and inexpensive. The frontier style log cabin was one room 10 feet wide by 12 to 20 feet long, had at least one glass window, and included a loft area for sleeping. Modern Log house plans are designed in a variety of styles with wood logs being the primary building component.



TUDOR STYLE

The Tudor exterior is diagonally placed heavy dark beams set against light, whitewashed plaster, and a patterned stone or brick chimney. Tudors are typically one and a half to two stories with second-floor cladding in contrast with cladding on the first floor. Plans may include tall, narrow multi-paned casement windows, rounded doorways, a bay window cantilevered over the first floor, high ceilings under steeply pitched roofs with gable ends.



RANCH STYLE

Introduced in the 1920-1930s, ranch style became the dominant American home style in the 1950s-1960s. Ranches are typically one story though split-level designs with few decorative elements except shutters or porch-roof supports. The exterior is faced with wood, brick, or a combination. Key rooms open to the outdoors. The classic L-shaped rambling Ranch floor plan combines the living and dining areas into one, with a short hallway or exterior gallery that leads to the family room and bedrooms.



CONTEMPORARY or MODERN STYLE

Contemporary, architect-designed homes of the 50's, 60's, and early 70's broke away from conventional design. Characteristics include simple, clean lines with large windows devoid of decorative trim, and flat or gabled roofs. Contemporary exteriors are usually siding, stucco, stone, brick or wood.



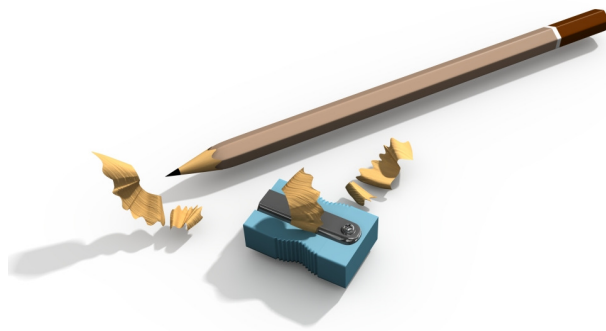
NEO STYLE

Many new homes borrow details from historic styles and combine them with modern features. These designs have an Old World look that's not specific to any one style. Features include high steeply pitched roofs, tall windows, and traditional details like pediments, keystones and shutters



CHAPTER #1 ASSIGNMENT

DOCUMENT YOUR HOUSE STYLE



After studying the various house styles,
decide which style is the *most* like your house.

Record the style of your house.

This will determine colors, placement of color,
and next steps to designing your front entry.

CHAPTER 2 - HOUSE FRONT SYMMETRY

Now let's look at the front of the house.

There are two different designs of houses, *symmetrical* and *asymmetrical*.

Simply put, **symmetrical** means that if you draw a line down the middle of the front of the house, whatever is on the right side is *exactly* what is on the left side (Diagram 1). The two sides match each other perfectly. The entry door is in the center of the front wall.

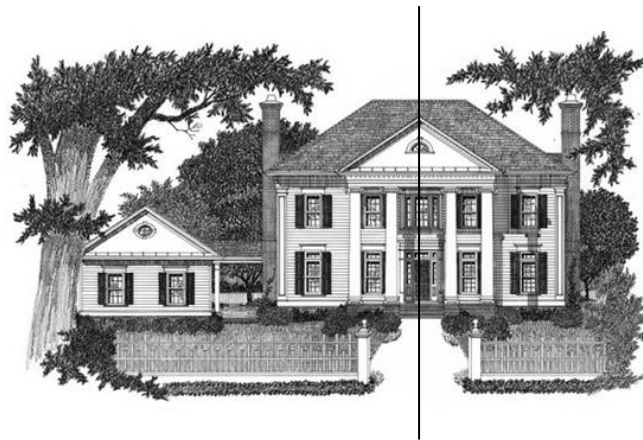


Diagram 1

Asymmetrical, on the other hand, means that windows and doors are irregularly placed in the front wall of the house (Diagram 2). The door will generally be off to one side. The windows can be in any of various configurations.



Diagram 2

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