



Best on the Block

Improve your home's first impression with more creative expression

Carefully combining materials including wood, stucco and stone creates big impact.

Throw out all those well-intentioned rules about not judging a book by its cover or a person by how they look. Sometimes, looks matter — especially when it comes to curb appeal and attempts to sell your house or, at least, not be the neighbourhood embarrassment. Paying attention to the details on the exterior of your house can create the first impression you are looking for — the one that says you take pride in your home.

Some elements of curb appeal are best decided when building a home, while others can be updated with relative ease. From the layout of a garden to the colour of a front door, the building blocks of exterior design can be used to dramatically transform the look of your home. Whether you're in the market for a new place or want to give your current home a facelift, check out these tips from local design experts on improving your curb appeal.

Mixing horizontal and vertical lines adds interest to the front of a home.



Paul Petrin, design consultant, Blok Home Development & Design Ltd.

“Creating curb appeal is one of the most important investments a homeowner can make, whether your goal is to get a more-appealing design for resale purposes, or just for your own benefit. A person can create a much more dramatic home by changing their windows, and, if they can, not just the size, but also the

location of them on the home. But even changing your window cladding from a non-colour to an old black can frame a house and can give it more gravity. Horizontal windows really make a home stand out on the street, especially if they're framed in black. Also, authentic materials around the windows like real stone or stucco, instead of a vinyl siding, really make a big impact on the home's appearance from the street.”