

This captivating drive by the team at Nashville's Page I Duke Landscape Architects is both unassuming and completely magical—a glimpse at the transformative power of simplistic design.

THE Report

MAINTAINING AN OPEN-DOOR POLICY IS EASY WHEN BIG STYLE AND BOLD ACCENTS BEGIN ON THE OUTSIDE.

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PHOTO: JOHN CHILSON

CURB APPEAL

Whoever said not to judge a book by its cover couldn't have been a fan of architecture. For all of the intoxicating color and texture present in the interior of the home, friends and guests generally form an opinion long before they make it past the front door. Luckily, though, thanks to ever-innovative architecture and the natural beauty of landscape architecture, it's becoming easier and easier to create moments of equally compelling aesthetic expression on the outside of the home. Here, we take a look at all the ways the industry's biggest players are pumping up curb appeal.

1 BLOCK PARTY

Why should the backyard get to have all the fun? In this charming California abode by the team at Nickey Kehoe, all the action has been shifted to the front thanks to an extended porch meant to facilitate conversations and relationships with neighborly passersby. A bright pop of color on the upholstered patio furniture livens up the home's dark brown façade and works well with the fun-loving robin's egg blue shade on the front door. nickeykehoe.com



STATUE STILL 3

There's no hard and fast rule that suggests art has to be reserved for the interior of the home, and that's a good thing considering how far outdoor sculpture has come from oversize plaster lions on either side of a long driveway. Today, antique architectural elements are bringing personality to the façade, as are quirky sculptural accents like the vintage spotted canine outside this home designed by San Francisco-based Hillary Thomas. "The entrance of a home is the perfect opportunity to give your guests a sneak peek of what's to be expected when they enter the home," says Thomas. "A bright door, pretty lighting, sculptural artistic elements or a fun outdoor rug instead of a typical doormat can bring unexpected interest to the home." hillarythomas.com



2 KNOCK IT OUT

Nothing says welcome better than a meticulously handcrafted door knocker. Equal parts artistic statement and functional necessity, this handsome bronze lion head from Nanz makes the need for a doorbell nearly obsolete. Though the lion head motif has been around since the Roman era, this version feels thoroughly modern thanks to its clean, simple lines. nanz.com

THIS PAGE: BLOCK PARTY PHOTO: AMY NEUBINGER; KNOCK IT OUT PHOTO: COURTESY NANZ; STATUE STILL PHOTO: COURTESY HILARY THOMAS; OPPOSITE: TRUE CLASSIC PHOTO: COURTESY G.P. SCHAEFER ARCHITECT.



4 TRUE CLASSIC

For his own home in New York's Hudson Valley, architect Gil Schafer III borrowed elements from Greek Revival architecture to create a compelling silhouette, complete with Roman Doric columns, meant to stand the test of time. When paired with landscape architecture by Deborah Nevins, the result is a traditional home that looks modern despite its classic 19th-century American vernacular. gpschafer.com; dnalandscape.com



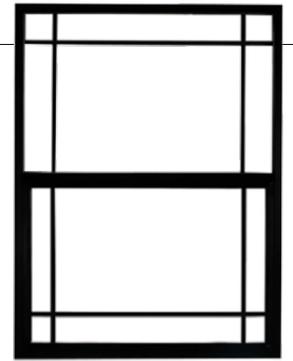
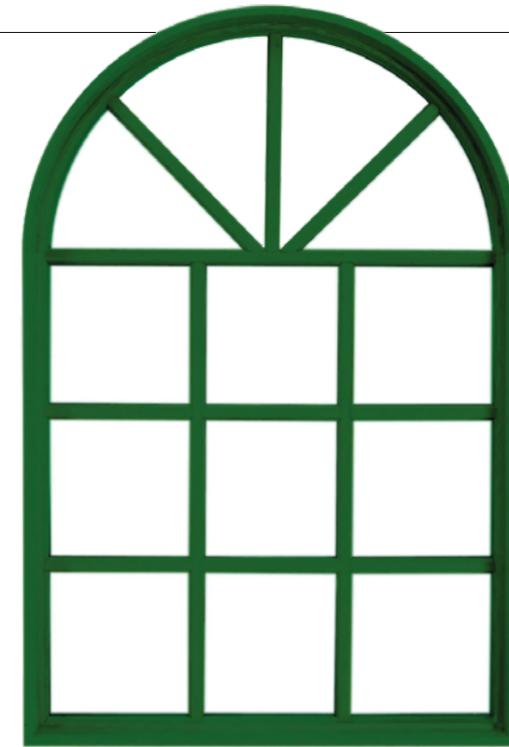
5 TO THE POINT

Contemporary architecture, by its own minimalist nature, uses a lot less to impress than its more traditional architectural counterparts, which means every element has to count. Fortunately, this is a challenge that modernist Seattle architect Amy Janof is intimately familiar with and one she was happy to visit again when she was tapped to design this family home in conjunction with Helen Hald Architecture. The two added a fresh spin to typical glass-box construction by sandwiching this open and airy portion of the home between two farmhouse-inspired wings that reference the archetypal representation of a house. The result is a genre-bending home with plenty of texture and geometric charm. janofarchitecture.com; helenhald.com

THIS PAGE: TO THE POINT PHOTO: BENJAMIN BEINSCHNEIDER. OPPOSITE: WINDOW SHOPPING PHOTO: COURTESY MILGARD. SITTING PRETTY PHOTO: JANE BEILES.

6 WINDOW SHOPPING

With all of the exciting new innovation in window technology (think hurricane-impact glass and brilliant filters meant to minimize the damage of UV rays), it can be easy for form to take a backseat to function. The good folks at Milgard, though, remain committed to both beauty and brawn. Offering windows made to fit a variety of architectural styles—from Cape Cod and Tudor homes to modern and Mediterranean—the company has something suitable for every taste and inclination. milgard.com



7 SITTING PRETTY

There are few ways to enjoy a cool evening better than from a cozy spot on the front porch—even furry friends agree. The Shingle-style façade of this Connecticut home by Julie Nightingale looks extra charming when paired with an upholstered iron bench and coordinating pillows between two blooming topiaries that make the wait for summer that much more bittersweet. julienightingaledesign.com

8 CUSTOM CRAFT

The front door is ground zero; it's the home's first chance to make a good impression on guests and visitors alike. As a result, the team at ETO Doors takes its job very seriously: bringing an element of the handcrafted to the company's large inventory of offerings available in a wide range of materials—from a variety of handsome wood species to steel, fiberglass, metal, aluminum and more. And, if over 40,000 different in-stock options to choose from aren't enough, elegant knockers, hinges and high-quality end straps, like the one pictured here, are on hand to transform the entry into a statement-making, one-of-a-kind addition to the home, as unique as the people who live inside of it. etodoors.com



9 MADE IN THE SHADE

Bold color is known to bring fresh and fearless design to a home, and as owners are beginning to get more adventurous with hue on the inside of their homes, the trending toward palettes that pack a punch has begun to spill out to the exterior, as well. As front doors painted in can't-look-away shades begin to become a staple in neighborhoods all across the country, examples like this pretty San Francisco residence by designer Myra Hoefler, with its turquoise front door meant to echo the wraparound porch's soft blue ceiling, make it easy to see why this movement is catching on fast. myrahoeflerdesign.com

LUXE LOOKS:

Whether your style is bright and bold or soft and cheeky, here are some of our favorite shades for front doors with impact: **Valley of Fire, Portola Paints & Glazes; Pitch Black, Farrow & Ball; Arabian Nights, Sydney Harbour Paint Company.**

THIS PAGE: CUSTOM CRAFT PHOTO: COURTESY ETO DOORS. MADE IN THE SHADE PHOTO: R. BRAD INYSTEIN. OPPOSITE: OUT OF BOUNDS PHOTO: COURTESY NANAWALL. BY THE NUMBERS PHOTO: COURTESY SCHOOLHOUSE ELECTRIC.

10 OUT OF BOUNDS

Sometimes beauty is less about what is there and more about what isn't. And, in the case of this stunning architectural jewel in Wapiti Valley, Wyoming, what isn't there is any kind of separation between indoors and out, thanks in large part to the stunning expanses of NanaWall glass installed in the open-concept living/dining/entertainment area. Designed by architect Brett Nave, this home was erected as a tribute to the Northern Rockies and proves there's no greater curb appeal than what nature provides on its own. nanawall.com; studiobna.com



BY THE NUMBERS

Just because house numbers are practical doesn't mean they can't also be beautiful. These black-and-white embossed aluminum number signs from Schoolhouse Electric & Supply Co. pack graphic interest and old-timey craftsmanship: Each one is individually constructed with antique tooling by a 100-year-old, third-generation family-run company in Portland. schoolhouseelectric.com

