

Creating Curb Appeal

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As Published in Barbara Roueff's, June 2006 Real Estate Client Newsletter

Whether you are selling your home or just moved in to a new home, creating curb appeal is an important part of making a house a home.

When creating curb appeal consider the front door, walkway, sidewalk, lawn and planters as separate entities that need your attention. First, make it easy and interesting for people to find your front door. Use floral arrangements such as hanging baskets, planters, or potted baskets to draw visitors and guide them to the door by strategically placing baskets along the walkway. Staging baskets in groups is an effective way to create a big look at a low cost and one which can be moved around at whim if desired. In addition, strategically place baskets tell visitors what to expect next – a step, a landing.

Make the transition from the street to the home as smooth as possible by using foundation plantings. This will soften the edge between the lawn and home. If budget allows, use larger plantings, as this subliminally indicates that the home is grounded or stable as compared to smaller plantings that are not quite matured. This also gives the illusion of safety, and stability in the home, something we are all after.

During the summer months it can be challenging to keep the lawn lush but with appropriate watering and feeding it can be accomplished. Trim excess lawn material away from driveways and sidewalks – it just looks so much tidier and leaves a good impression.

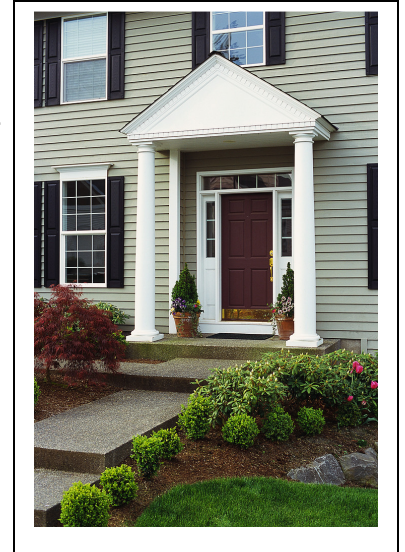
If you are able to incorporate a curved path way to the door, all the better as it allows guests to meander and enjoy the walk up to your door, perhaps to even stop and smell the roses. Take into consideration that it also allows visitors an opportunity to emotionally transition from the out doors to the in doors.

To add to the charm or a bit of exotic to your home, consider placing a water feature in the front yard. Today, simple to install and inexpensive water features are easily incorporated into any design scheme and offers a touch of the exotic.

Place cozy seating along with a little accent table and you have a sit spot which will be hard to pull away from. Voila! You have created an outdoor room in your front yard.

The front door to any home should always sparkle and look fresh. Update the look of your home with a coat of cheerful paint to welcomes guests. If door hardware needs replacing, the time to do it is now. And with the truly amazing selection of outdoor lighting at reasonable prices, personalize your home with new lighting fixtures of your choice, keeping in mind the style of the home and neighbourhood. For resale purposes, these added touches make the home so much more valuable in the eyes of the buyer.

Your agent will probably tell you that the exterior of the home attracts home buyers, though it is the inside of the home that drives them to buy! Keeping the inside and outside of your home in tip-top shape will ultimately go a long way in achieving your home selling goals.



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