



Exterior Home Colors

IDEA GUIDE

The view from the curb is your home's first impression - and nothing quite affects its character and mood like a well executed paint job. The good news is, that although time consuming, painting is a relatively easy upgrade that can make a big impact.

When you decide that your home could use a fresh coat, you are faced with step one, which is possibly the most difficult. You will need to choose the colors. With many paint brands on the market, each with their own collection of hundreds of hues, the task of choosing the perfect mix for your house can be daunting. There are many factors to consider when making your choice: house style, the permanent materials that can't be altered (brick, stone, etc), the natural landscape, and neighborhood character, among others. But the most important consideration is what MOOD you want your house to emulate.

Take a look at the five combinations laid out in this guide, and note that the exact same home looks completely different based on the application of colors. From bold to blending, classic to contemporary, be inspired to choose the palette that fits your style!

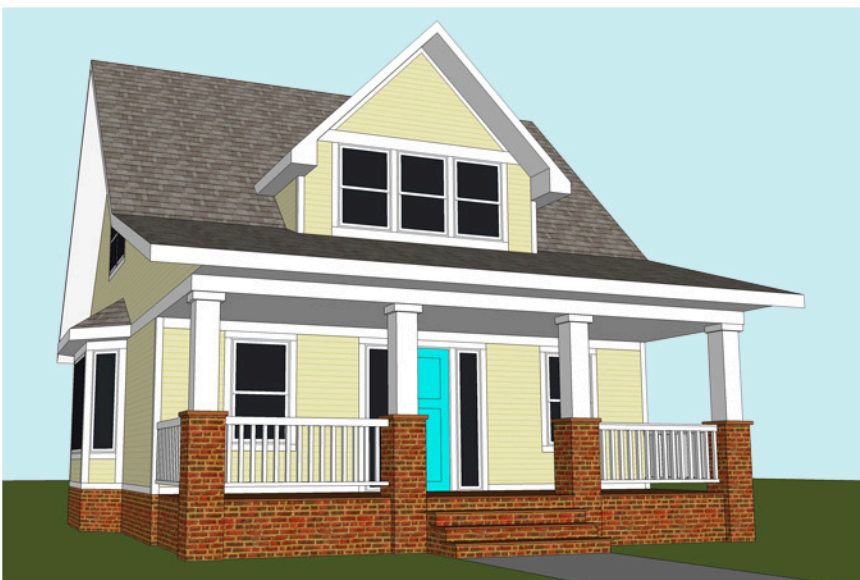


LIGHT OLIVE WITH CREAM & BURGANDY ACCENTS

Natural
Earthy
Serene & Calm



colors by Behr

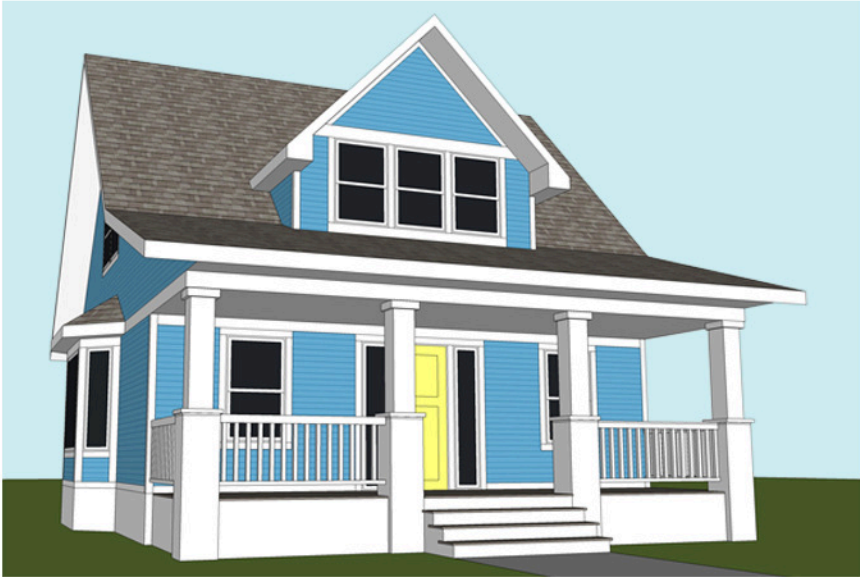


IVORY WITH WHITE & AQUA ACCENTS

Formal
Elegant
Historic/Classic



colors by Valspar

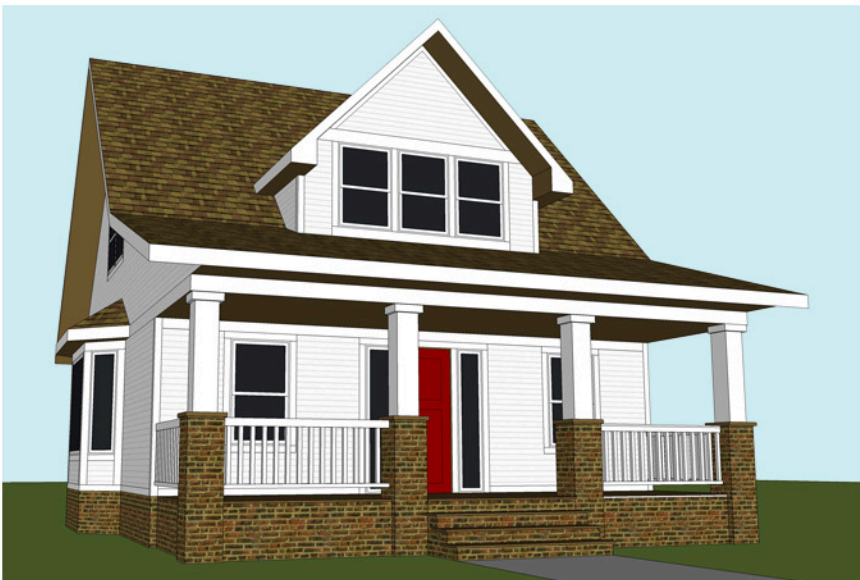


BRIGHT BLUE WITH YELLOW ACCENTS

Cheerful
Sunny
Bright & Bold



colors by Behr

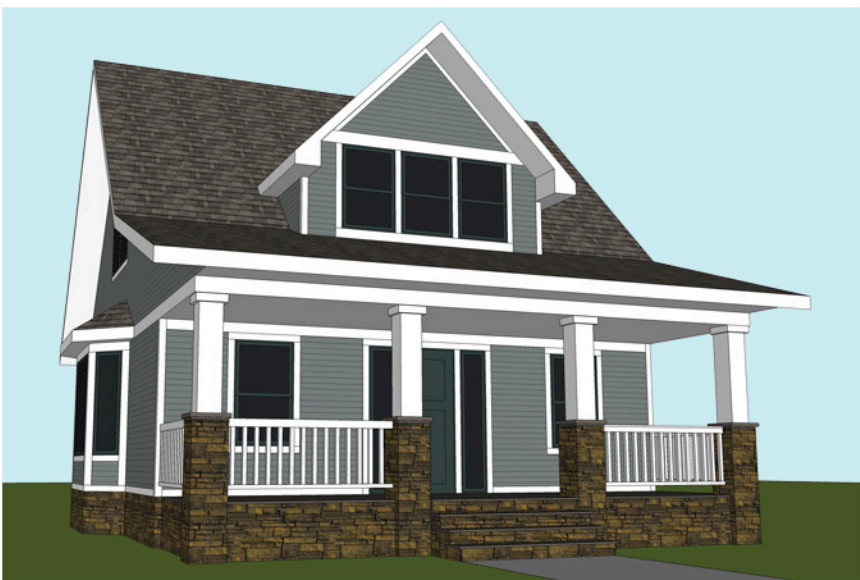


SIMPLY WHITE WITH NATURAL ACCENTS

Classic
Simple
Crisp & Clean



colors by Sherwin Williams



SLATE GRAY WITH DEEP TURQUOISE ACCENTS

Sophisticated
Traditional
Solid & Sturdy



colors by Behr

Before you paint it is important to keep these tips in mind to ensure you'll be happy with your color choice for years to come!

1. Take the Test. Paint colors will look different depending on light levels - the undertones and tint of the color play a major role in this. To ensure you're getting a color you love, pick up some test paint (most paint companies sell sample pints at a highly discounted price) and cover a large area on each side of your house. Then keep an eye on how the colors look throughout the day. It's better to put forth a little extra effort now than to regret your choice once the entire house is painted.

2. Smooth the surface. Probably the most labor intensive part of the painting process is scraping the siding to remove any loose paint. It is difficult, but necessary. For a super smooth surface, go ahead and get out the sander. If your home was built before 1978 it is important to make sure you aren't dealing with lead paint, of which airborne particles can be harmful if inhaled. Pick up a lead test kit at your local hardware store or online, and if you get a positive result, follow extra precautions for removal or consider hiring a professional.

3. Clean it up. To ensure the best coverage, remove dirt and dust buildup with a pressure washer. Be sure to check for mold and mildew while you're at it, and use a mix of water and phosphate-free cleanser if needed.

4. Make repairs. Now is the time to inspect everything that has been uncovered with the washing, scraping and sanding. Minor holes or dings in the siding can be filled with patching putty, but any major damage that is revealed may require the replacement of sections of siding.

NEED MORE INSPIRATION? check out these additional color schemes.



BODY TRIM ACCENT
Carriage Door Urban Putty Sanderling
colors by Sherwin Williams



BODY TRIM ACCENT
Anjou Pear Jersey Cream Warm Stone
colors by Sherwin Williams



BODY TRIM ACCENT
Silver Bullet Dusty Olive Poseidon
colors by Behr



BODY TRIM ACCENT
Nurturing Ultra Pure White Millstream
colors by Behr



BODY TRIM ACCENT
Sturdy Bronze Clove Bud Cool Moss
colors by Valspar



BODY TRIM ACCENT
Stone Mason Gray White Pepper Almond Glaze
colors by Valspar

note: colors may vary based on screen & printer settings. It is important to get paint swatches/ samples to confirm color choices