

From the driveway, to the fence, to the front door and even the letterbox, the exterior of your house consists of a multitude of elements that begin to set the mood of your home. People can often spend days, weeks (months and even years) debating every minor detail of the inside of their homes and completely forget about the exterior appearance.

The colour and style of your entrance not only tells your story to guests and passers-by, but it can be responsible for setting the mood you bring inside each time you arrive home.

Colour designer and stylist Annie Edelman (pictured) from the International School of Colour and Design has the following tips to give your house serious kerb appeal:

- Colour speaks. A splash of colour on your front door can speak volumes. It can scream or it can whisper your message to the street. It might say: welcome, beware, move on nothing to see here, come in or life's fun.
- A well sanded, primed and undercoated door with two or three coats of high gloss enamel, and finished off with just the right door furniture, can really say it all. Every well dressed front door needs a little bling.





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- If you've always wanted a red front door but have been shy about it, try Dulux Rose Pink Villa - a playful red, perfect for the diva in you.
- You can't go past charcoal for a smart and classic exterior finish – try Colourbond Monument.
- If it's a serious image you want then a slick black door is your answer. Gorgeous, glossy black says I'm self assured and fuss free.
- For those who enjoy something a little quirky why not let it rust? Porter's Original Paints have a two part process of rusted iron paint. It continues to age and weather and gains more interest with each passing year.
- Earthy toned exterior paints are all the rage for 2011. Burnt reds, deep charcoals, neutral stones and warm browns will all be exterior colours to watch in 2011. The exterior of the house is constantly exposed to a variety of different elements and will need a quality

undercoat followed by at least two top coats. Alternatively, look for a self priming paint that is durable, flexible and is both sun and dirt resistant.

- Jazz up your entrance with a slick, stainless steel letterbox to add instant sophistication. For extra wow factor, look for one with solar panel LED lighting.
- Walk around your neighbourhood and check out other houses. Most people generally want their home to blend into the crowd and not scream 'Look at me!' Look for features of surrounding houses that resonate with you, however always remember to retain your own individuality and be true to yourself. **P.**



*Through workshops, foundation course and diplomas, the International School of Colour and Design prepares its pupils for roles as stylists and designers for leisure or professional development. Visit [iscd.edu.au](http://iscd.edu.au) or phone 9114 5988*



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