

20 Exterior Window Trim Ideas to Enhance Your Home's Look

By [SARAH LYON](#) | Published on 01/28/24



Design by Tiffany Torbert of [Level Team Homes](#) / [David Cannon](#)

Every aspect of your [home's exterior](#) makes a major first impression, and when it comes time to choose an exterior window trim for your home, you may be unsure what direction to take design-wise. Do you desire a trim that's neutral in color, such as black, white, or gray, or are you craving something colorful?

Sean Mullin, an architect with [Anthony Wilder Design/Build](#), is partial to black window trim. "We often tell clients it's like adding eyeliner to your windows," he says.

He likes how the color accentuates the windows, particularly in instances where the sash—which holds the glass windowpanes in place—is kept white. "Against the white walls of the exterior, it adds a very subtle touch that makes the windows really stand out," Mullin says.

Note that window trim comes in a range of widths, too, and you will want to select which size is right for you. Ross Padluck, partner at [Kligerman Architecture & Design](#), prefers window trim to be on the narrow side. "I find wider trims to feel too heavy and they can crowd sleek design lines," he says.

However, it is important that you prioritize your personal aesthetics when choosing a trim color, whether that means taking Mullin's approach to add some drama, opting for a bit of color for a personality-filled exterior, or going another route entirely.

The 20 exteriors below represent just a small sampling of the looks that you may wish to consider for your own home.

01 Bold Bright Green

of 20



ART Architects

Here, bright green window trim complements the trim that goes all the way around this house. The color is cheerful and adds lots of life to this shingle-style home. This hue is often seen on other [Victorian style homes](#), which are known for their peppy, playful colors.

02 Black and White Ripples

of 20



📷 Design by Jeffrey Dungan A...

The white rippled effect surrounding this window creates major visual interest and is the true star of the show, as opposed to the trim, when it comes to this exterior. Thus, it's smart to keep the paint color simple to allow this detailing to truly shine.

03 Natural Wood

of 20



📷 Design by [BarnesVanze Architects](#) / [Hoachlander Davis Photography](#)

Brown wood window trim adds plenty of warmth to this home's exterior. The soft wood hue is contemporary and luxe-looking.

04 Subtle Soft Gray

of 20



Design by Tiffany Torbert of [Level Team Homes](#) / Photo by [David Cannon](#)

If the exterior of your home is white but opting for a black window trim seems too bold, consider going with a soft gray instead. The end result is calming and welcoming. Since gray is a neutral, it won't distract from whatever front door color you choose.

05 Mixed Materials

of 20



📷 Design by [Tracy Morris](#) / Photo by [Greg Powers](#)

Since this home's exterior is so detailed, simple colors do not distract from the architectural features at hand; the two colors easily complement a range of building materials.

06 Matching Wood

of 20



Design by [BarnesVanze Arc...](#)

While this window trim is the same wood color as the shingles, a darker sash adds a bit of contrast allowing the design to stand out. This trim type is perfect for achieving a cabin-like aesthetic without overdoing it.

07 Industrial Dark Gray

of 20



 Design by [BarnesVanze Arc...](#)

Dark gray window trim adds an industrial touch to this exterior. The color is less severe than black but still adds a sleek feel to any home. It complements the contemporary design style and allows the wood slats to stand out.

08 Simple White

of 20



 Design by [BarnesVanze Arc..](#)

White window trim is always a classic and pairs nicely with the beige tones present on the outside of this coastal-style house. The cool-toned palette creates a calming setting.

09 Forest Green

of 20



 Design by BarnesVanze Arc...

If you like the idea of opting for green but aren't craving something bright, take a cue from this home, which features a classic forest green that extends from the porch to the window trim.

10 Bright Red

of 20



Design by [Ballard + Mensua Architecture](#) / Photo by [Michael Geissinger](#)

Red window sashes are surrounded by light brown trim and add flair to this arts and crafts style home. While red and green are typically seen as contrasting colors, the presence of gray helps to weave the two together and create an artful juxtaposition.

11 Blue and White

of 20



Design by [Ballard + Mensua Architecture](#) / Photo by [Michael Geissinger](#)

Blue and white as a color combo will never go out of style! This pairing shines on the exterior of a large arts and crafts style home and ties in with the stone present as well.

12 White and Beige

of 20



Design by [Ballard + Mensua Architecture](#) / Photo by [Michael Geissinger](#)

White and beige are also always a no-fail option when paired together. White trim is always a safe option for those who are drawn to a classic color palette.

13 Narrow Red

of 20



Design by [Ballard + Mensua Architecture](#) / Photo by [Michael Geissinger](#)

Here's another instance where red window trim—narrow in size—still makes a major statement. If you're looking for a way to distinguish your home from all of the others on the block, this is certainly one way to do so. Once again, the red hue looks beautiful with a soft green.

14 Deep Black

of 20



 Anthony Wilder Design/Build / Photo by John Cole

Black window trim looks sharp and contemporary. No matter your style of home, this is an excellent, safe pick that is sure to stand the test of time. The nearby lantern and railings are also the same shade of black, resulting in a well-curated look.

15 White With Blue Insets

of 20



Design by [Rill Architects](#) / Photo by [Stacy Zarin Goldberg](#)

While the trim on this home is actually white, the sash on the doors and windows is a lovely soft blue color. Keeping the trim white but taking more of a color risk with the sash is another option that will still add plenty of character to your home.

To create a cohesive front exterior, opt for [outdoor furniture](#) that is in the same color palette as the trim but in different hues.

16 Rustic Wood

of 20



Design by [Rill Architects](#) / Photo by [James Ray Spahn](#)

Here is another example of a rustic home where wood window trim creates a cohesive, cabin-like look.

17 Black and White

of 20



 Winn Design + Build / Photo by Stacy Zarin Goldberg

Black window trim will look as nice with a white [brick house](#) as it would beside red brick—or another color, for that matter. The black trim also helps ground the entire look.

18 White and Deep Blue

of 20



[Winn Design + Build](#) / Photo by [Stacy Zarin Goldberg](#)

If your house is a deep blue, going with a white trim, as seen in this instance, will soften up the look and prevent the bold color from feeling too severe.

19 Black and Stone

of 20



 Design by Jeffrey Dungan A..

There's something so grand about stone paired with black trim. This pairing is a great way to fully embrace natural hues, sticking with shades that are reflected in the surrounding environment.

20 Contemporary Black

of 20



Design by Jeffrey Dungan A..

This contemporary home features oversized windows with black trim. Most modern houses do not feature much color on the exterior; now is not the time to take a risk with blue or red.