



A Simply Grand Entry

Finding Your Curb Appeal

by Lorraine Alexander

*Feng Shui Rules of Thumb for
Fabulous Curb Appeal*



Is your entry easy to see from the street? The practice of Feng Shui teaches that Ch'i (pronounced chee) described as the natural universal energy, enters the home from the front door, making the entry to a home significant. The folk-lore associated with this practice states that when the entrance to a home has good Feng Shui, the Ch'i (or cosmic universal energy) will flow freely into the home, and bring the occupants good fortune, abundance and wealth.

Whether you believe in this 5,000 year old ancient Eastern philosophy of design or not, most folks will admit that the approach to your home really does set the tone or mood for new visitors; making them feel welcome and at ease, or not. Adding these design elements will make your entry draw positive attention while creating both good Feng Shui balance and fabulous curb appeal.

1. First, add color to the front door. This will draw attention and create an appealing entry. Add more of the same color with pots, shutters, or trim color. Just a few simple touches will create a beautiful accent. (When choosing you accent color, don't forget to take into account the roof color and the surrounding landscape, and use eco-friendly paint).
2. Add colorful plants and flowers to direct foot traffic to your entry door. Color is a powerful design element, creating a visual path to your door.
3. Use tasteful signage to point the direction to your entry if it is not easily visible from the street.
4. Light the path to the door with landscape lighting, making your entry beautiful even at night. Solar lights are an effective easy option.
5. Make a walkway from the front sidewalk (not through the driveway). Create a path with a soft curved design instead of a straight line. Curves are easily found in nature, and using them in design creates a relaxed feeling.
6. Add a water fountain to the front of your home near the entry, to set a relaxing mood with sound.
7. Feng Shui rules suggest that you create a suitable path to your home. The path or walkway to the entry should be wide enough for comfort. It is also important that it is level and not uneven or rough, so that it is both safe and easy to walk on.
8. If you have a fence it should be low (not blocking the view) and friendly looking. The top should be even or curved no harsh or sharp points.
9. Finally, add two planters with colorful foliage to flank your door; Feng Shui folklore claims this brings the home luck and protection.