

5 Easy Ways to Up Your Curb Appeal

by Linda Metzger, LMInteriors

You only get one chance to make a first impression! What first impression is your home making? Especially in a competitive market, curb appeal is that intangible, but ever important asset that could give your home the edge. Neglect on the outside of the house suggests neglect on the inside too. Whether you're planning to sell or staying put, you can give your home a mini facelift with these easy tips.

1. **Change your front door** – Nothing is more welcoming than a tidy, attractive front door. Make sure that the finish is fresh and the glass is sparkling clean. Consider painting it a welcoming color. If your front door is old and shabby, consider replacing it with a new one. Its money well spent.
2. **Freshen siding and trim on windows and doors** – Begin by power washing the whole exterior, siding and trim. Scrape any loose and flaking paint from the trim. Repaint if needed. Note: Power washers can be rented at your local hardware store or home improvement center.
3. **Trim trees and bushes** – If your trees and bushes are overgrown and overtaking the front of your home, potential buyers can't see the gem that is hidden behind them. Trim lower branches to visually open up the area.
4. **Add some flowers** - You don't even have to plant them in the ground. Near your front door, place decorative containers filled with your favorite annual blooms. Flowers will give a homey welcome to anyone visiting your home.
5. **Rejuvenate driveway and sidewalk surfaces** – Improving the look of old concrete or asphalt can be easier than you think. Again, get the power washer out to remove years of imbedded dirt from concrete surfaces. The change can be dramatic. The new concrete staining products make refreshing concrete easier than ever. Use asphalt patching material to fill driveway cracks. Then, follow with asphalt sealer. Generally, you can improve the look without replacing the entire sidewalk or driveway.

Many real estate sales begin from the sign in the yard. Buyers call because they like the way the house looks on the outside, so they expect to like the house on the inside too. Increasing your home's curb appeal can convert "drive right by", to "can't wait to go inside".

Look for more decorating tips from LM Interiors in future newsletters.

www.lm-interiors.com



Tonya Thomsen

Phone: (262)901-0866

Fax: (262)783-4885

tthomsen@realtyexecutives.com

BuyAndSellWithTonya.com

Realty Executives Integrity
13005 W. Bluemound Rd.
Brookfield, WI 53005



Information deemed reliable however, not guaranteed