

# Exquisite ENTRYWAYS

Written by Christy Collins

**W**hat impression does the front of your home make? Often, entryways can be filled with clutter - mail, keys, and shoes. But, the front of the home can say a lot about the lifestyle of the owners. In Sugar Land, homeowners are putting extra time and attention into making their entryways and stairways inviting and spectacular in order to make a great first impression.



Fountains add to the visual appeal of your home



A marble, wood, and iron staircase welcomes visitors at this area home

The Kruger home  
has a grand piano  
as the entry focal point

## Sugar Land Homes that Give Grand First Impressions



The focal point of this home's entryway is the dramatic architecture and unusual textures.



A stunning Iron staircase surrounds this home's entryway on three sides



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## Curb Appeal

A freshly cut lawn and thoughtfully landscaped yard provide the perfect setting for the entrance to your home. Symmetry on each side of your home's walkway leads the eye to the focal point of the home's facade. Popular among many Sugar Land residents is a process of concrete stamping that insinuates stones or brick inlays as an alternative treatment for their walkways.

Sometimes homeowners will opt for an extended front porch for entertainment. However, in Sugar Land's heat, it is important that it's covered and shady. Outdoor ceiling fans are a popular option as they are able to keep the area cool and relaxing. Classical décor on your porch, such as beautiful lighting fixtures and elegant seating, can add that special touch to your home's front view. It's important to keep in mind though that clutter here or unkempt furniture will take away from your home's curb appeal.

## Elegant Entries

The front door often makes a statement about what to expect inside the home. Driving through Sugar Land communities, the popularity of glass paneled front doors is very apparent. Another popular choice is a double front. Many home builders are now giving a wide variety of front door options to choose from, such as those inspired by Spanish, Mediterranean, Old World, French Country, or custom architecture.



*The wrought iron double doors add a touch of sophistication to this area home*

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Touches to your home such as these are well worth the upgrade price and they will add a stunning architectural element to your home's facade.

## Entryway Accents

Once inside the front door, many Sugar Land residents choose plans with open and expansive entries. A wide arching staircase with a balcony creates a stunning focal point that draws the eye up and out upon entrance. Iron accents such as staircase banisters or décor are quite popular in many homes. If your home is two stories with a bi-level entryway, a beautiful chandelier and several windows can provide the openness that many Sugar Land homeowners are looking to achieve. It's important to remember to use closet space that is often provided in foyers and underneath staircases to conceal everyday clutter. The foyer area is a great way to introduce guests to your home and to your style with your choice of décor and color palettes.

## Wide Open Spaces

Many modern floor plans have an open concept that allows the home's energy to flow more smoothly. This is done by eliminating inner walls and using columns as load bearers instead. The great room concept is popular today because it allows interaction throughout the main living spaces, which is a key selling point to those with children and families. Often, the foyer opens up into these common areas of Sugar Land homes to allow the energy flow to circulate.

*The Lowe's home features a formal, traditional entryway.*



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## Finishing Touches

There are also custom touches to add pizzazz to the entryway provided by many builders today. Small wall niches are a great way to display art and valuables, and often come equipped with recessed lighting. Crown molding is another great way to add dimension to your interior walls, as it draws the eye upward, making your room appear larger.

The next time you drive your car into the garage—think again. Instead of taking the back door in, make the trip around to the front. Remind yourself of the grandeur of the front of your home. This is the first thing people see, and after a busy day, it's refreshing to enter this peaceful, quiet, and clean part of the home. Who knows? It may help you look at your home in a whole new way. SLM

*CHRISTY COLLINS and her husband, Nathan, are busy raising two little girls.*



*The family dog guards this home's beautiful entryway*



*Visitors at the Stoke's home are welcomed by a parlor and double staircase*