Decorator's Notebook

Open The Door To Color

(NAPSA)—Your front door is talking about you. Its appearance speaks to your personality, decorators say.

Too often, the front door of our home tends to be drab shades of beige, brown, white and gray, while the fun, vibrant colors are used to make interior and exterior walls and siding stand out.

When you consider that all visitors pass through the front door, a dull and dreary door could give the wrong impression. Your front door could be an opportunity to make a bold statement about yourself with a vibrant blue, a knockout red or a daring yellow-green.

"Selecting big, bold color for the front door and adding accent pillows and cushions for outdoor furniture or wall art on the outside is becoming much more popular," said PPG color expert Dee Schlotter. "Homeowners should use traditional, long-lasting colors for home exteriors and save the statementmaking hues for accent pieces like doors and porch furniture."

A different shade for shutters can also provide a colorful contrast. Contrary to some beliefs, front doors and shutters don't always have to match. In fact, using different colors on the two features calls more attention and can add appeal to your home. The outside of your house can in fact define who you are and how you live on the inside.

Exterior paint jobs are about more than just the color, though. Selecting the proper products for various exterior surfaces can make the difference between a well-executed paint job that will withstand the natural elements and one that will require significant upkeep to stay eye-catching and impressive. Proper planning and priming before adding that



Your front door can actually help express your personality.

new, brighter color can ensure longevity for a lively, vivacious home exterior.

To spice up the exterior of your home and welcome friends and family in a whole new way, try these tips:

- Choosing a color palette that works together is important. Mix, match and experiment before committing to your new statementmaking exterior color.
- Don't forget the porch ceiling. Selecting a color other than white can play off features such as ceiling fans or even the brightness of the sky.
- •What would your door look like if it was painted red—try it on PPG Pittsburgh Paints' Paint Your Own Room Visualizer—now available on the tablet. Snap a picture of your door and then apply any color you like so that you can see how it can change the personality of your whole home.
- •Learn more through PPG Pittsburgh Paints' The Voice of Color program. PPG Pittsburgh Paints analyzes upcoming color trends and incorporates the hues into color palettes. You can find it at www.voiceofcolor.com.