

# 15 entryway ideas – stylish and functional designs to take home

Stunning looks and modern entryway ideas that will make the best first impression.



(Image credit: Threve Mercantile)

BY **EMILY GRANT** 2 DAYS AGO

Looking to revamp a dated entryway into a space that is more modern and welcoming? Look no further. We've scouted out the most stylish and practical entryway ideas so that you can really make an entrance. This often small space is regularly overlooked but, as the first thing visitors see when they enter your home, it deserves some attention.

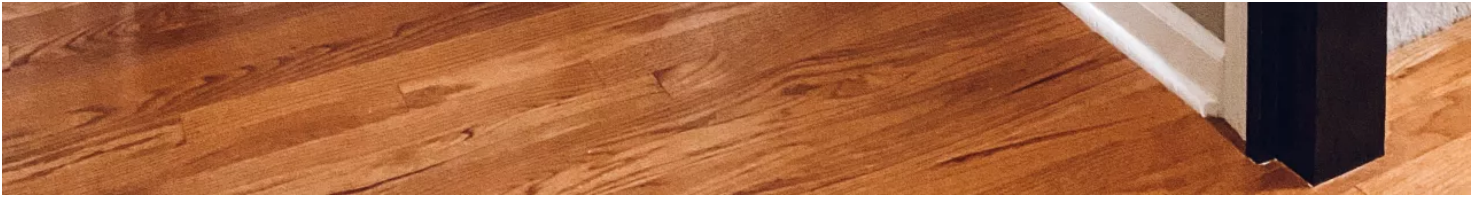
Lindsey Machado of *Designed with Grace & Joy* agrees. She says, 'You know that expression, 'You only get one chance to make a first impression'? Well that especially holds true with the entryway of your home!'. Luckily, as with [hallway spaces](#), there are also many affordable ways to give this sometimes neglected space a new lease of life.

## SMART AND STYLISH ENTRYWAY IDEAS

Too often we let shoes, coats and clutter take over, but these smart entryway ideas will help you use this space to make a great first impression.

### 1. GO MONOCHROME





(Image credit: @lizzydesigns\_)

This entryway oozes simple elegance. The go-to color in the majority of foyers is white; it brightens up the space and makes it feel bigger, but it can feel a little plain. Try adding accents of black to create some contrast and bring the space to life, without breaking the bank. You can also try jazzing up the classic black and white color scheme with a fun, patterned [accent wall](#) like in Lizzy's entryway pictured here. Soften the look with plants, pillows, welcome signs and a mirror and you're ready to impress your guests.

## RECOMMENDED VIDEOS FOR YOU... **REAL HOMES**

### Simple Solutions: Ombre Ikea lampshade hack |HOME HACKS

Want to personalise your Ikea lampshade? This Regolit lampshade has been transformed with a simple paint effect. Watch o...

PLAY SOUND



## 2. PERSONALIZED WALL SPACE





(Image credit: Katie Lee)

If you're not into adding dark hues to your entryway, you can also add interest to white walls by hanging a [gallery wall](#) for visitors to look at whilst they enter your home. This is easy, inexpensive and can be updated each new season to refresh the look. You can use family photos, homemade art pieces, vintage pictures or mementos to show off your personality from the moment visitors enter your home.

### 3. NATURAL ACCENTS





(Image credit: <http://graceoaksdesigns.com/>)

We love the way [Grace Oaks Designs](http://graceoaksdesigns.com/) has used beautiful wicker baskets to stylishly stow away clutter and keep the space tidy and visitor ready – in case you don't have room for a separate [mudroom](#).

Kirsten Krason, co-founder of House of Jade Interiors says, 'One of our favorite things to source for an entryway are baskets to stash shoes. Inevitably you'll have guests or friends come in and take their shoes off which creates a pile of shoes for people to trip over as they enter your home. We love finding an entry table that has open storage underneath for generously sized baskets for those extra shoes so they stay off the floor. An entryway with storage doubles the functionality of your table and can also be beautiful.'

#### 4. STATEMENT LIGHTING





(Image credit: Neptune)

We're not all lucky enough to have a large entrance hall but, a stylish statement light can impress even in a smaller space. The best [hallway lighting ideas](#) will not only be practical for everyday use but, will make for an easy, affordable update that can become the focal point of a room.

Often entryways don't get a lot of natural light. Choosing the right lighting options can be a game-changer, even if you're not into installing an accent piece. Sarah Sain, of *Sain Homes*, believes, 'Good lighting is everything. You want your guests to feel comfortable at their arrival, and good lighting sets the tone for that calm and relaxed feel.'

## 5. CREATE AN ENTRYWAY OFFICE





(Image credit: Future)

If you think you don't have space for a [home office](#), think again. You don't need to dedicate an entire room to use as an office. An entryway is often an underused space, so why not turn it into a cozy workplace? There are fold-away tables with stow-away stools that you can hide when not in use, or desks built into shelving units, or dual use closets where you can hang coats *and* attend meetings. You can even just add a small desk to an alcove like in the smart entryway office pictured.

## 6. KIT OUT DROP ZONES



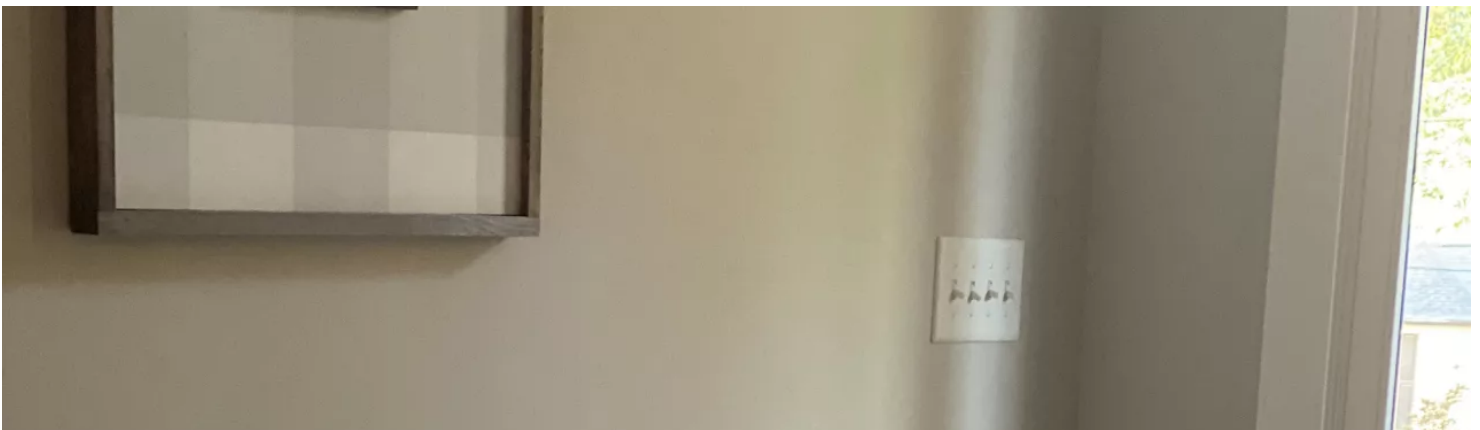


(Image credit: Formica)

All too often an entryway can become a dumping ground for shoes, coats and clutter. Sometimes in a busy home cute baskets or hooks can be a good solution to not end up buried in the disarray of life's essentials.

Mark Lavender of M. Lavender Interiors suggests, 'If you have to create a small drop area, select a nice piece of furniture such as a chest or even an armoire that allows any items such as keys, coats, etc to be stored out of sight.'

## 7. DRESS UP PRACTICAL SEATING





(Image credit: @cici\_atheart)

If you have enough space for an entryway bench, do it. It's so nice to have a comfy spot to put on your shoes or to wait for the rest of the family before heading out. As the cool weather draws in, keep your entryway ideas warm and snug by adding cozy throws and pillows in warm earthy tones - think wooly winter sweater for your entryway. We love the minimalist simplicity of Cindy's entryway pictured.

Chris Campbell of [The Charming Bench Company](#) says, 'The foyer or entryway is the first area in your house that your guests will typically see and that is why it is a great place to start for furnishing your home for the coveted "first impression" to last. And a fabulous way to furnish your entryway is to have a statement bench that is equally elegant and sophisticated.'

## 8. ADD SEASONAL TOUCHES





(Image credit: @a.firemans.wife)

Small seasonal touches like cozy baskets, dried leaves, cute signage and pumpkins make simple but effective [fall decorating ideas](#) for every space in the home. And, it doesn't need to stop there, a little refresh each season can create an inviting entry for friends and family whenever they come to visit.

Mike Katona of [Shabby Chic House](#) says, 'Adding a seasonal reef is a great way to spice up your entryway and also keep it fresh. We typically have at least four different seasonal reefs (Spring, Summer, Fall & Winter).'

## 9. USE BRIGHT AND AIRY NEUTRAL TONES





(Image credit: @lakefrontfarmhouse)

This entryway feels so bright and airy with its white walls, wood floor and neutral cushions and throws. We especially love the clever dressing up of this vintage wooden church pew with cozy textiles to make it comfy and inviting. Add some props like a wreath, jug and watering can and you are on to a winner.

## 10. GREETING ON ARRIVAL





(Image credit: myhomierhome.com)

A simple 'hello' can be very welcoming so why not add a sign to say just that? The signage in this entryway by [myhomierhome.com](http://myhomierhome.com) is a super cute touch. Add family photos, a fun vase, a plant or two and any other quotes that inspire you, to create a space that is bursting with personality.

[Shop welcoming signage at Walmart.](#)

## 11. GET COUNTRY COZY





(Image credit: @a.firemans.wife)

We love these simple, numbered crates that neatly store clutter out of the way, making great [mudroom storage](#) ideas also. The cushions, lantern and cute sign all add to the country cozy feel. Hanging a basket of flowers on the hooks is an awesome idea too.

Nikki Levy of [Nikki Levy Interiors](#) advises, 'My first tip for keeping an entryway looking nice is keep it clean. Don't use the entry as a dumping ground (i.e. place for

mail, keys, sunglasses, etc.). It can very quickly look crowded and messy. For those homes that are more limited with space, I recommend designing the entryway as a mud room, where there is a designated place for everything.'

## 12. STATEMENT MIRRORS



(Image credit: cb2)

Adding a mirror is the perfect way to make the space feel bigger and brighter. We love all accent [mirror ideas](#), this gorgeous one is from [cb2](#). It opens up the space and creates a stunning focal point that is sure to impress your guests, without having to redo the whole entryway. Plus it gives you one last chance to check yourself before you welcome visitors.

Sarah Sain of [Sain Homes](#) says, 'Big mirrors = timeless decor. Not only does having a mirror allow you to take a quick glance at yourself before opening the door, it

reflects the natural light coming in from outside.'

### 13. MAKE FURNITURE A CENTRAL FEATURE





(Image credit: Threve Mercantile)

If you have the space, try arranging furniture in the center of the room like in this lovely entryway with the Penelope Table by [Threve Mercantile](#). Staying away from walls can draw energy into the middle of the room and create a sense of space. Add a round table with a beautiful plant or vase to create a feature out of your furnishings.

#### 14. ADD QUIRKY COLORS AND SHAPES





(Image credit: Anthropologie)

Too often an entrance can be a neglected, boring space. Have some fun and go a little unconventional with fun patterned [hallway wallpaper ideas](#), miss-matched accessories, modern side tables and interesting objet d'art.

Stephanie Lindsey of *Etch Design Group* gave us this tip, 'When selecting items for your entry, it's okay to mix finishes and patterns. Just let them contrast enough so the items aren't competing with one another.'

Shop [House of Hackney Artemis wallpaper from Anthropologie](#).

## 15. REPAINT THE DOOR INSIDE AND OUT



(Image credit: Guest House)

We absolutely love the bold red door in this entryway by [Guest House](#). Even if you have just a small foyer, [painting a door](#) with a fresh lick of paint is an inexpensive way to revamp the space. Choose a bright color that makes a statement and you can wow your visitors without adding anything else.

### WHAT LOOKS GOOD IN AN ENTRYWAY?

This is a super versatile space where you should introduce your home to your guests. It's a room where almost anything goes, so give your entryway some personality by featuring great [wall decor ideas](#) and art, trinkets and more, in addition to those must-have functional items like entryway benches, storage pieces and the like.

Levy says, 'An entry is the introduction to the rest of your home. When we work with a client, we view the entry as setting up the interior design for the rest of the space. My advice, do not be afraid of drama and detail. This is not just a utilitarian space, but rather

a place that welcomes both you and guests to your home. Take advantage of the opportunity to wow, surprise or impress.'

## HOW DO YOU MAKE AN ENTRYWAY LOOK NICE?

It can be tricky to find the balance between practical and beautiful. Lindsey Machado of [Designed with Grace & Joy](#) gives us some suggestions on how to make a functional entryway look nice. She says, 'Depending on the size and shape of your entryway, as well as whether you'd prefer function, form, or a mix of both, there are a quite few different furnishings you can incorporate into the space. One easy, no-fail addition is a narrow console table, as you don't want to block a lot of the walkway. This is ideal for being able to not only set down items as needed, but it's also very simple to accessorize. Consider going with a bold color or unique shape to add interest to the space. A bench is another functional and many times classy piece of furniture for the entryway, and a perfect place to both put on and store shoes.'

'If the bench you love doesn't have built-in storage, baskets are the perfect solution and can be tucked away underneath to hide shoes or anything else you want out of sight. Have kids with backpacks or want a place to hang your purse or coat upon entry? Add some hooks above the bench, or even consider a hall tree/bench combo to be able to incorporate both options in one seamless piece. Lastly, if you have a rounded entrance or foyer, a small seating area (with one or two petite chairs and a side table) would accentuate the space perfectly. Again, it's all about considering not only what option you would use the most, but also what overall aesthetic you want to portray.'

- Find all our [shoe storage ideas](#).

## HOW DO YOU DRESS AN ENTRYWAY?

You have a functional entry, but how do you dress it up? It's the details that tie a space together, so we sought out some expert advice to give us some ideas. Veronica of [Design with Veronica Sanders](#) says, 'I like to dress an entryway with bead garlands, plants, and soft textiles. Nothing beats stepping onto a soft runner rug and looking at a beautifully decorated entry as the perfect way to set the tone for a space. Adding a bit of nature with wood bead garlands and plants are always a smart idea. Plants also help to clean the air and add to a fresh aroma upon entry. Adding a few throw pillows and throw blankets to soften the space helps to create a homey vibe that's sure to put you at ease. Other decorative objects like books and figurines really level up the space as well. I like to do odd number groupings of 3, 5 or 7 to create visual balance and harmony.'

## HOW CAN I DECORATE MY ENTRANCE?

We like to update small decor pieces in our entryway to suit the season. Annie Elliot of [New Again Houses](#) does too. She says, 'Decorating your entrance should consist of a few impactful, perhaps seasonal, simple items. For long-term accents that don't need to be changed with the season or holiday, wall art, accent rugs, and statement furniture pieces provide timeless decoration. For more seasonal items that can be changed easily and frequently, unique pumpkins and gourds, felt garland or seasonal flower arrangements are a nice touch. Don't be afraid to switch our your wall art with the season, too!'