



Designing a Contemporary Home



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'Contemporary' is defined as spaces with smooth surfaces, clean lines and windows and doors with large glass panels to bring the outside in. Colors are neutral, revering nature as the epitome of the aesthetic.

Windows and Patio Doors

Contemporary style patio doors and windows have thinner frame profiles to maximize the view. Combination windows, Moving Glass Walls and large doors paired with transoms and sidelights help accentuate the design.

This Pacific Northwest home exemplifies contemporary design with straight lines and large glass openings. Windows are used in combination. The dark colors blend into the natural surroundings.



Featured: Essence Series® windows.



Indoor/Outdoor living is integrated to the lifestyle. The fireplace and hot tub enhances utilization of the patio for a place to relax and enjoy the outdoors.



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A wall of patio doors looks out to views of nature. The windows are left uncovered so as to highlight the straight lines and let in ample amounts of natural light.



This powder room combines contemporary aesthetics with nature's essentials. A sleek bronze faucet and hammered sink sit atop a reclaimed plank that highlights the wood's true personality.



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Low Profile Hardware

Contemporary design emphasizes a clean, smooth surface. Window locks and hardware often protrude from the frame and is especially noticeable if painted in a different color.

The SmartTouch® lock has an unobtrusive, low profile design that is integrated into the frame. The lock operates as both the opening handle and locking mechanism in the window.

The SmartTouch door handle is of similar design that does not stick out, but is integrated into the rail.

In keeping with the contemporary design, the tilt latch is also flat and smooth.



The SmartTouch® window lock and door handle have been awarded the Arthritis Foundation's Ease of Use Commendation



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Aluminum Series picture windows



Ultra™ Series fiberglass picture windows and patio doors

Rectangular Shapes

Window shapes that promote combinations, such as rectangles complete the look in a contemporary home.

Picture, casement, single hung and horizontal slider are operation styles used most frequently.

Symmetry and Combination

Windows and doors in contemporary homes are usually abundant. There is little adornment on the walls and the windows themselves become the 'art.' Windows in combination are used in symmetric design, which promotes a look that is pleasing to the eye.



Aluminum Series awning and picture windows



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Neutral Colors

Contemporary design is focused on inviting in nature, bridging the divide between indoors and outdoors. White, tan, bronze, natural crème, ivory...these colors are neutral, blending with softer tones to give focus on the view inside the frame.

Large Glass Panels

Large panels of glass enable lots of natural light to flow in and opens up the space. Rooms are filled with sunlight, creating energy from the expansive feel. To maximize the opening, the glass generally will not have grids.



A contemporary home reflects many current styles that are sleek, clean and minimal. Simple, repeating shapes echoing balance and symmetry prevail.

Focusing on these principles can help achieve the desired results in designing a contemporary home.



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