



TIPS FOR BUILDING A MEDITERRANEAN STYLE HOME

NEW TREND - Current home building trends are seeing a revival of classic Mediterranean design. From Spanish to Italian influences, these architectural styles have been mirrored because of an overwhelming response from the home decor industry.

RESEARCH - online to find historic buildings and study them for details that you would like to include. Read books on architecture and the specific region that most interests you for correct design elements. Use historic features such as red roof tiles, stucco walls, arches, and enclosed outdoor spaces, these details most reflect the architectural traditions of the Mediterranean.

INSTALL - an authentic looking tile roof. They are more expensive but worth the additional funds. Window sizes are important because you don't want to make them too large. Don't use trendy elements that will date the construction, instead use arches and other instantly recognizable architectural features.

HARDWARE AND FLOORING - should complement the style, while still being functional. Interior flooring choices can range from wood, tile, stone or concrete, but no wall to wall carpeting.

DECOR - should add age to your homes with paint choices and rustic architectural elements. See more about this below.

DECORATIVE IDEAS:

COLORS - The Mediterranean color palette is wide, and your color choices will depend on whether you prefer, among others, a Renaissance, Baroque or Tuscan look. Warm and natural colors of red, brown, yellow and green are a popular color scheme for a Mediterranean feel, but cobalt blue, clean white and matte black are also part of authentic Mediterranean decorating. A color combination of blue, yellow and white is very coastal village, while a lush scheme of red, slate gray and gold reflects an ornate villa. However, avoid ultra-modern color schemes like only black and white.

PATTERNS ARE A GOOD COMPLIMENT - Styles used in Mediterranean homes tend to be focused on the abstract and the natural, with flowers, leaves, swirls and stripes predominating. For instance, an Italian kitchen might have a pattern of stripes on the lower half of the wall, with a waist-high border of framed diamonds or leaves. The top half of the wall might be a textured-looking background with tiny diamonds spaced out on the wall, with yet another border at the ceiling.



GARDEN AND LANDSCAPING FOR MEDITERRANEAN HOMES:

Complement your home with Mediterranean-style landscaping. It is a design style that is interpreted in slightly different ways, but tends to feature relaxing outdoor rooms, lush, fragrant vegetation and the soothing sound of trickling water. Because the Mediterranean climate is so mild, most landscaping in this style features several different seating areas, or outdoor rooms. Some of these are designed for entertaining groups of people and others consist of a solitary stone bench beneath the shade of an arbor. Pepper your Mediterranean-style home landscape with arbors, trellises or pergolas to support climbing roses and other flowering vines.

Line pathways with gravel or pave with natural stone. Terraces or patios should be constructed using natural stone instead of wood. A classic Mediterranean outdoor garden element is to feature a large mosaic on a wall as a backdrop to the garden or patio. Include a water element in the form of a fountain, whether freestanding or hanging on a wall. Use wrought iron, unfinished teak or other exotic wood furnishings. Choose earth-toned colors in either bright or muted tones, depending on your personal taste.

Buying a home is an investment for you and your family for years to come. Finding the right partnership between homeowner and homebuilder is vital. At DESCO FINE HOMES we want you to know that we specialize in Mediterranean homes.

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