

COLORADO ARCHITECTURAL GUIDE

Descriptions of 10 of the most popular Colorado housing styles



CRAFTSMAN: Embracing simplicity, handiwork, and natural materials, Craftsman home plans are cozy, often with shingle siding and stone details. Open porches with overhanging beams and rafters are common to Craftsman homes, as are projecting eaves and gable roofs. Commonly seen in Colorado with the incorporation of arches and barrels. Interior spaces are efficient and functional with either painted or stained trim.



RUSTIC CONTEMPORARY: Combining traditional Colorado mountain rustic themes with modern contemporary elements, this new style gives the contemporary elements of single pitched roofs and straight planes a feeling of belonging in Colorado's mountains. This style uses straight lines and vertical planes to separate and define rooms and materials within the design. Simple trims and smooth surfaces fill the interior.



COLORADO RUSTIC: Incorporating elements of the Rocky Mountains, Colorado Rustic homes feature natural mountain stone, wood timbers and logs, and rough sawn trim to create a warm rustic feel. Aspects of its style are large fascia trims and soffits, large columns, and timber exposed structural trusses and beams. An abundance of rustic wood trim highlights the interior spaces as well, bringing the rustic outdoors inside.



TRADITIONAL FARMHOUSE: Characterized by large wrap around porches, steep roofs, window shutters, and decorative vertical siding and trims, this style is a popular style that features open functional floorplans with large Great Rooms and efficient layouts. This style stands out by its iconic white trim inside and out with brick accents, dark hardwood floors and railing, and layered door and window trim.



COLORADO STANDARD: This is the classic approach to architectural style in Colorado. Featured by the use of stucco or siding, with heavy accents of stone and arches. Gable roofs and tall accented Porches help classify this popular Colorado style. This theme often uses knotty and textured trims characterized by earth toned colors. Interior spaces are generally very open with vaulted ceilings and varying ceiling heights.

BUILDING MADE PERSONAL.

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COLORADO PRAIRIE: This style is characterized by strong horizontal lines low-lying roof planes with large overhangs. Rectangular glass and defined separation in vertical planes is also a common theme in Prairie style architecture. This style can use several different materials and colors, but always incorporates defining lines between them. Interior layouts generally consist of varying ceiling heights and a continuation of horizontal lines.



MODERN CONTEMPORARY: Contemporary house plans have simple, clean lines with large windows generally without the use of decorative trim. This style usually has flat or single pitched shed roofs, asymmetrical shapes, and open floor plans. Solid colors and materials separate spaces and define rooms, and the use of reoccurring square lines characterize this new style. New trendy materials often exemplify this style.



MODERN FARMHOUSE: This style is a traditional Scandinavian twist on the traditional American farmhouse style. Isolated spaces defined by pronounced roof lines and board and batt siding isolates this style from its traditional farmhouse origination. The Modern Farmhouse is also characterized by black accents in the windows and shutters. The interior spaces generally have open floorplans with vaulted ceilings.



EUROPEAN: This style incorporates French tudor style dormers and roof flares with a clean stucco or solid exterior. Steep roof slopes and arches highlight the home and give it a lot of vertical magnitude. Shutters and dark exterior trim colors alongside courtyards and pergolas finish the traditional European feel with a modern twist. Interior spaces generally finish with an abundance of white trim and cabinetry.



MOUNTAIN VICTORIAN: This is the Western version of the European architectural style made popular on the East Coast of America. Large cathedral type rooms and windows walls decorated heavily in layers of trim. Rustic stone and arches along with earth toned colors bring a mountain element to this popular style. The interior space is generally elaborate in detail with vaulted ceilings and open spaces.

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